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Bangalore Mirror ON SUNDAY

TEMP Max 27 | Min 20 | Humidity 90% Mostly Cloudy | Sensex 81,306 | Nifty 24,870 | Gold 1,00,371 | Silver 1,16,078 | Dollar 87.25 | Euro 102.32 | GBP 118.16

ON THE PROWL

Fibre cages, more streetlights — forest dept upgrades infra for humane capture & release of leopards found around human habitations

PAGE 5

DAM GOOD

Aging infra, high inflows, ongoing repair work at state's dams make monsoon season particularly critical for farmers, urban centres

PAGE 9

As BBMP starts zooming in on 50,000 designated feeding spots across city for strays, experts suggest measures to make initiative smooth considering rising cases of hostility against feeders

THE HAND THAT FEEDS

Installation of waste bins, ID cards, boards with officials' numbers and more...

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Following the Supreme Court's order regarding stray dog management, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) will soon identify nearly 50,000 designated feeding spots across Bengaluru.

Out of these, while 800 spots will be BBMP's feeding spots under the 'bite-free locality' campaign, the remaining will be for citizen feeders.

"We are identifying 800 feeding spots across the city for BBMP's feeding programme under the 'bite-free locality' campaign. Apart, BBMP will also recognise feeding spots for regular feeders across the city. We have received the SC's order of August 22. The timeline for identification of these spots and overall implementation of the order will be deliberated upon on August 25 with BBMP officials concerned in BBMP limits," said Suralkar Vikas Kishore, Special Commissioner, BBMP's Animal Husbandry and Health Department.

Kishore added that the identification of the spots will be done in consultation with experts and local feeders.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12 »

"Changing feeding spots of dogs overnight will not work. Moreover, the spot should be slightly away from major public and traffic movement and should be large enough to accommodate multiple groups of dogs without conflict

—Sudha Narayanan, founder trustee of CARE

Intersection of chaos & disharmony

Underpass junction falls in 2 constituencies and 2 traffic police station limits. That must be why everybody thinks it is the others' job to sort out issues

Y Maheswara Reddy
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Confusion and chaos is brewing at the underpass intersection under Lingarajapuram Flyover, especially during the peak hours. The intersection, unfortunately, is not a favourite place for either traffic police or honorary traffic wardens. Strangely, it is like a village on the state border that has not received development or attention from the authorities concerned.

The reason is that the underpass intersection falls under two Assembly constituencies – Sarvagna Nagar and Pulakeshinagar – and two traffic police stations – Banaswadi and Pulakeshinagar. The privilege of having too many custodians has turned a curse when it comes to development and infrastructure facilities for the benefit of thousands of – hapless as well as careless – commuters. For one, commuters have no other option but to use this intersection and several commuters who do not follow traffic norms are ever ready to pick a fight with others.

Residents on Hutchins Road and surrounding areas of Cooke Town complain that traffic congestion has become a daily

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12 »

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Multi-crore betting case: ED raids across India, MLA arrested

The Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Bengaluru Zonal Office, carried out massive search operations on Friday and Saturday, across 31 locations in India, including Gangtok, Chitradurga, Bengaluru, Hubballi, Jodhpur, Mumbai and Goa. The raids were conducted in connection with a money laundering case against Chitradurga MLA KC Veerendra and his associates for allegedly running illegal online and offline betting networks.

The searches extended to five casinos in Goa Puppy's Casino Gold, Ocean Rivers Casino, Puppy's Casino Pride, Ocean 7 Casino and Big Daddy Casino. ED officials revealed that Veerendra was operating multiple betting websites such as King567 and Raja567. His brother, KC Thippeswamy, based in Dubai, was found to be managing three firms — Diamond Softech, TRS Technologies and Prime9 Technologies linked to call centre services and gaming businesses.

During the operation, the ED seized approximately ₹12 crore in cash, including ₹1 crore in foreign currency, gold jewellery worth ₹6 crore, 10 kg of silver articles, and four luxury vehicles.

In addition, 17 bank accounts and two lockers were frozen, while property documents belonging to Veerendra's family members, including his brother Nagaraj and nephew Pruthvi N Raj, were confiscated.

Preliminary investigations suggest large-scale layering of funds and suspected attempts to acquire casino operations in Gangtok. Veerendra was arrested from Gangtok on Saturday, and produced before a Judicial Magistrate, who granted transit remand for his production in a Bengaluru court. Further investigation is underway. **BMB**

Fine discount offer is a hit

Over 1.48 lakh traffic fine cases settled on first day of 50% discount scheme

The State Government's 50% discount on pending traffic fines witnessed a massive response on its very first day on Saturday. A total of 1,48,747 traffic violation cases were settled across Karnataka, generating ₹4,18,20,500 crore in payments through online and offline modes.

The concession scheme, announced by the government on August 21, allows vehicle owners to clear pending e-challan fines by paying only half the amount. The order came into effect on Saturday and will remain valid until September 12.

The initiative is aimed at encouraging defaulters to clear long-pending fines and reducing the backlog of unpaid challans. Officials confirmed that the first-day collection reflects the strong willingness of the public to take advantage of the scheme.

Citizens can clear dues through multiple channels: the Karnataka State Police (KSP) app, the Bangalore Traffic Police ASTraM app, the Karnataka One/ Bangalore One service portals, or directly at nearby traffic police stations and the Traffic Management Centre. **BMB**

Six nabbed in ganja raids

Acting on a tip-off, JC Nagar Police arrested three individuals on August 15, 2025, for allegedly selling marijuana near a hotel on the service road within their jurisdiction. The accused were caught red-handed while attempting to sell the banned substance.

During the operation, police seized 6.75 kg of ganja, ₹1,200 in cash, and a weighing machine used for the illegal trade. The value of the seized contraband is estimated at around ₹1 lakh.

A case has been registered under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act. The accused are in custody and being interrogated to trace the source of the drugs and determine if they are linked to a larger network.

Officials reiterated their commitment to curb narcotics-related crimes in the city and warned of strict action against offenders.

In a separate incident, Malleswaram Police arrested three men for selling ganja, following two separate tip-offs on August 12 and 20, 2025. **BMB**

Teen SSLC student dies by suicide

A 16-year-old SSLC student, identified as Kusuma, died by suicide at her residence under Madanayakanahalli police station limits in Nelamangala taluk on Friday evening. The incident occurred around 6.30 pm when family members found her unresponsive. Despite efforts, she could not be saved and was declared dead by doctors.

Kusuma, daughter of Ramu and Shobha, was known as a quiet student. While the exact reason behind the suicide remains unclear, police are investigating possible factors such as academic stress, personal issues, or family-related concerns. Officials are also checking if she left a suicide note that could provide vital clues regarding the incident.

The body has been sent for postmortem, and a case has been registered. Madanayakanahalli police are conducting further inquiries into the tragic incident. **BMB**

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THINGS TO DO

01 Kathakali showcase

NGMA Bengaluru presents two enchanting evenings of classical Kathakali and Kodava folk dance, featuring skilled performers, vibrant storytelling, and traditional rhythms, celebrating India's rich cultural heritage. **Where: Auditorium, National Gallery of Modern Art; When: 29th & 30th August, 7 pm**

02 Comedy illusion

Enjoy SmaranniK stages Drishtikanya, a comedy of illusions inspired by Daphne du Maurier's The Blue Lenses, directed by Sayandeb Bhattacharya. Staged in Bengali with English subtitles. **Where: Ranga Shankara, JP Nagar 2nd Phase; When: August 30, 3.30 pm & 7.30 pm**

03 Dance festival

Nritya Vasantham – NRITYOTSAV 2025 presents two evenings of Bharatanatyam, Kuchipudi, Kerala Natanam, and Nangiarkoothu, celebrating youthful talent and honoring eminent Gurus with the prestigious Guru Puraskar. **Where: Nayana Auditorium; When: August 23 & 24, 6 pm onwards**

04 Cultural journey

Shubham School of Performing Arts presents YATRA 2025, featuring Navapallava with Hindustani vocals, Bharatanatyam, Odissi, and Kathak, followed by Aaveshika with Chhau, celebrating India's timeless performing traditions. **Where: Yuvapatha, Jayanagar 4th Block; When: August 24, 1.30 pm onwards**

05 Board buzz

JP Nagara SOCIAL teams up with Board Buddies India for an evening of craft cocktails, strategy, and fun board games, blending competition, camaraderie, and community spirit. First 20 get free access. **Where: JP Nagara SOCIAL; When: August 24, 4–7 pm**

Karaga-style Draupadi Ganesha turns festival showstopper

From eco-friendly clay sourced in Mumbai to coconut coir and recycled paper, idol makers are ensuring sustainability while unleashing stunning designs for Gauri-Ganesha festivities

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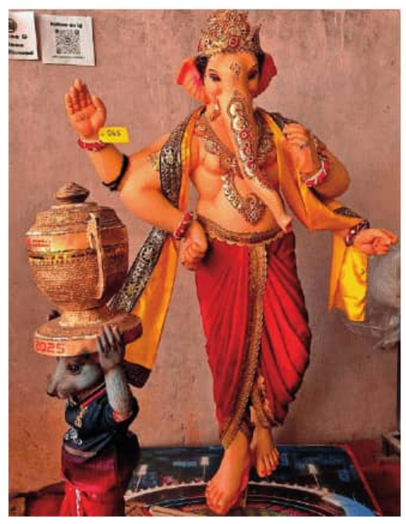
This year's Gauri-Ganeshaa festival is witnessing idols of Lord Ganeshaa in truly creative and unconventional forms. From an RCB Cup-winning Ganesha to a Karaga-style Draupadi Ganesha, and even an Operation Sindoor Ganesha, idol makers are offering devotees a striking variety of unique designs.

The recent victory of Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) in the IPL has been immortalised in Ganesha form. A tall idol depicts Ganeshaa holding a bat inscribed with 'RCB', while his vahana (mouse) carries the championship cup on its head. A motorised mechanism rotates the cup-bearing mouse, attracting special attention. Another idol shows Ganesha himself triumphantly lifting the trophy.

From Tamil Nadu to Hyderabad, buyers flock online for themed idols



"Our idols have already been purchased by customers from Tamil Nadu, Madanapalle, Hyderabad, Tirupati, and other parts of the country
– Anand Selvaraj Acharya, Sculptor

Creativity beyond tradition

Traditionally, households have brought home the familiar Balemuri Ganapathi or Edemuri Ganapathi idols. While families continue this practice, several public Ganeshaa festival committees are opting for more eye-catching, themed creations.

In Yeshwanthpur, Sri Eshaputra Enterprises (N R Arts), led by sculptor Anand Selvaraj Acharya, has crafted several unusual idols. Their Operation Sindoor Ganesha has already been purchased by the Army in Tamil Nadu, while the RCB Cup Ganesha was taken by residents of Attibele. These designs have gained wide popularity on social media. Another striking creation is the Karaga Ganesha, inspired by Bengaluru's famed Karaga festival, where the deity appears as Draupadi clad in a yellow saree, carrying the sacred Karaga.

Eco-friendly idols in demand

All idols are made from clay sourced from Mumbai, mixed with coconut coir and recycled paper. Ranging from one to seven feet in height, they are painted only with eco-friendly, water-based colours. "Since we prioritise eco-friendly idols, we avoid making very tall statues," explained sculptor Anand Selvaraj Acharya.

Wide range of designs

Apart from themed idols, devotees can also find Trimurti Ganesha (Brahma, Vishnu, Maheshwara), Damru Ganesha, Garuda Ganesha, Nataraj Ganesha, and Shakti Ganesha. "We make each idol unique and in limited numbers. Once designs are uploaded online, demand follows quickly. Our idols have already been purchased by devotees from Tamil Nadu, Madanapalle, Hyderabad, Tirupati, and other parts of the country," Acharya added.

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KSRTC ensures affordable travel this festival

With heavy festive travel expected from Bengaluru during the upcoming Gowri and Ganesha celebrations, KSRTC has announced 1,500 additional special services. These buses will operate from various parts of Bengaluru to destinations across Karnataka and neighbouring states on August 25 and 26, while return services are scheduled for August 27 and 31. Transport department officials have also issued strict warnings to private operators against fleecing passengers during the long weekend, noting that fares are often hiked excessively during festive rush. Authorities said stern action will be taken against violators and urged passengers to immediately report instances of overcharging. The measures aim to ensure fair, affordable, and safe travel for lakhs of passengers expected to journey during the holiday period. **— BMB**

75 centres, 500 tanks for idol immersions

BBMP has set up 75 single-window centres across Bengaluru to issue permits for Ganesh idol installations during the upcoming Gauri-Ganesh Chaturthi festival. To promote eco-friendly immersion, 459 mobile immersion tanks, 41 lakes, and several temporary kalyanis have been arranged across all wards. Nodal officers have been appointed to assist citizens, and detailed information is available on the BBMP website. Key lakes such as Yediyur will remain open for clay or eco-friendly idol immersion between August 27 and September 17. However, immersion at Herohalli Lake in RR Nagar zone has been cancelled due to technical reasons. Zone-wise deployment includes East (138 tanks), West (91), South (56), Mahadevapura (40), Bommanahalli (58), Dasarahalli (22), RR Nagar (80), and Yelahanka (4). **— BMB**

With just a few days to go for the Ganesha festival, an artist gives final touches to a life sized Ganesha idol at RV Road, Basavanagudi

Fibre cages & more to mitigate leopard threat

B'luru Rural's humane move to adopt fibre cages, awareness drives, improved infra for big cat 'capture and release'

Tumkur model cage with dual-door design, proposed for leopard management

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Bengaluru rural division of the Karnataka Forest Department is planning to upgrade its infrastructure required in the capture and release operation of leopards or big cats found sprawling around human habitations on forest fringes.

The plan involves fibre cages to capture the animals, ensuring street lights in villages abutting forests, training of Forest Department staff, and awareness about the big cat among villagers.

According to Santosh Kumar G, Deputy Conservator of Forests, Bengaluru Rural Division, the upgrades will be done through interdepartmental coordination.

Kumar says street lights in villages on the forest fringe are important to improve safety and mitigate conflict situations.

"Leopards are mostly seen in fringe areas. While they have always been venturing into human habitation, such incidents are being highlighted now due to widespread presence of CCTV cameras and smartphones. We will soon be writing to Zilla Panchayats to ensure these villages get street lights

This division has about 20,427.49 ha of forest area. It has one sub-division, namely, Doddaballapura sub-division, and consists of four ranges, namely Doddaballapura, Devanahalli, Hosakote, and Nelamagala.

While the division has sufficient steel cages to carry out 'capture and release' operations, it is considering phasing out steel cages with fibre cages.

"Sometimes, leopards or other animals, captured in steel cages, sustain injury as they try to escape. Fiber cages will help reduce that chance," said Kumar.

> **"Department staff are the first to reach the spot, and they must be trained to assess the situation and manage the crowd that may be anxious, scared, or angry**
>
> –Santosh Kumar G DCF, Bengaluru Rural Division

Training of the Department staff for better management of on-ground situations due to a human-animal conflict is also being considered.

"Department staff are the first to reach the spot, and they must be trained to assess the situation and manage the crowd that may be anxious, scared, or angry. Staff should also be trained in carrying out the operation as per NTCA guidelines. Given the increase in the number of sightings, staff training is important.

The division might also equip itself with a Tumkur cage, a bigger cage with two doors on both sides, with a trigger mechanism for closing.

Wildlife conservationists have welcomed this move by the department.

"Humans need to adapt as the leopards have adapted. This can happen with awareness programs in villages located at the forest fringe. Apart from improving its 'capture and release' process, the department should also ensure that waste disposal in these villages is streamlined. The most important aspect is to ensure that natural forest areas around the city are kept intact," said a wildlife conservationist.

7.5 lakh B-Khata properties get A-Khata status

In a significant relief for property owners, Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar has announced that 7.5 lakh B-Khata properties within Greater Bengaluru limits will be upgraded to A-Khata status upon payment of development fees. The long-pending move is expected to benefit lakhs of families, resolving ownership disputes and addressing infrastructure challenges in regularised layouts.

The government has also unveiled major infrastructure plans worth over 35,000 crore. Key projects include white-topping 154 km of arterial roads at 1,700 crore, improving 632 km of sub-arterial roads at 7,500 crore, and black-topping 450 km at 699 crore. Of nearly 10,000 potholes identified citywide, 5,377 have been repaired, with the remainder scheduled for immediate attention. **–BMB**

Driver negligence sparks BMTC's sweeping safety reforms

Following recent fatal accidents, BMTC has imposed strict disciplinary measures to improve safety. Any driver caught using a mobile phone while operating a bus will face an immediate 15-day suspension. Effective from Friday, the rule specifically targets rising accidents involving newly introduced electric buses and forms part of BMTC's broader strategy to enhance passenger safety.

An electric bus crash into a tree earlier this month (File photo)

Stricter action against tepeat offenders

BMTC has announced strict disciplinary action against negligent drivers following two recent fatal accidents. Any driver involved in two fatal crashes will face immediate termination. For a first fatal accident, the driver will be suspended for six months, denied salary hikes, and required to undergo retraining at the Vaddarahalli Training Centre. The measures come after 18 people died in electric bus accidents across Bengaluru over the past 15 months.

Other disciplinary measures

Alongside suspension and termination rules, unit transfers and alcohol checks at depot entry points have been implemented. Drivers found under the influence will not be allowed on duty. To help reduce driver fatigue, running times on 2,000 routes have been revised, and driver stress is being monitored.

Safety training underway

Since December 2023, 11,835 drivers have undergone formal safety training, including sessions using accident footage to raise awareness. For electric bus drivers, 1,187 have completed a specialised training module designed for the new vehicle technology.

To reinforce discipline, BMTC has directed depot-level officers to brief drivers thrice daily—morning, afternoon, and evening—on safety protocols and driving etiquette. **–BMB**

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Diesel generator pollution places Bengaluru in red zone

Researchers urge stricter policies, financial incentives, and gas or solar alternatives to curb DG set emissions worsening city's already fragile air quality

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PICTURE FOR REPRESENTATION ONLY

Reliance on diesel generators grows due to power cuts, amplifying pollution in city

In 2022, India's 14.7 lakh diesel generators emitted 42 Gg of PM2.5 and 877 Gg of NOx. Researchers urge replacing them with solar or gas-based alternatives to prevent worsening health and climate impacts in Bengaluru and other cities

Bengaluru Urban has been identified as one of the six worst-affected cities in India for particulate matter (PM2.5) emissions from diesel generator (DG) sets. A pan-India study conducted by the Centre for Study of Science, Technology and Policy (CSTEP) highlights the alarming impact of DG-driven pollution on human health and the environment.

The study, Switch on, Smoke off: Reducing Emissions from Diesel Generator Sets, lists Bengaluru Urban, Mumbai, Patna, Gautam Buddha Nagar (Noida), and North 24 Parganas in West Bengal as high-emission districts. In 2022, nearly 14.7 lakh DG sets were operational across India, contributing 42 Gg of PM2.5, 23 Gg of black carbon, and 877 Gg of nitrogen oxides (NOx).

Researchers caution that the DG market in India is expected to grow at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 8.8% by 2030, making interventions urgent. They recommend replacing diesel units with solar DG sets, adopting CPCB IV+ generators with stricter emission norms, gas-based solutions, and retrofitted emission control devices. Solar photovoltaic systems, though promising 100% emission reduction, currently meet only about 30% of demand due to high costs, land requirements, and reliability issues. Gas generators, capable of cutting PM2.5 emissions by over 95%, are hindered by steep costs, poor pipeline infrastructure, and safety concerns.

Experts suggest policy-level interventions such as a national scrappage policy for ageing, highly polluting units, financial incentives for rooftop photovoltaic systems with storage, and subsidies for CPCB IV+ DG sets. They stress that older or poorly maintained diesel engines often violate Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) standards, emitting far above permissible limits. These ageing sets, especially in urban areas with frequent power outages, act as "super-emitters."

The study recommends mandatory periodic emission testing, strict enforcement against violators, and shifting industrial clusters to gas-based generators wherever piped natural gas (PNG) networks are available. Identifying and phasing out non-compliant units, researchers argue, is critical for achieving cleaner air in cities like Bengaluru.

Residents protest against footpath garbage menace

Jai Jawan Nagar residents press for intensive cleaning, footpath restoration, and preventive measures to curb rampant garbage dumping affecting community health and safety

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The condition of the footpath

"I found the BBMP workers clearing garbage on the footpaths on the other roads but they are not removing garbage completely. The footpaths in the area have become a destination for rats
– B Manimegalai Shanthakumari
Resident

The residents of Jai Jawan Nagar near Maruthi Seva Nagar have been struggling a lot to cope with garbage woes. The residents complain that accumulated garbage on footpaths have become an eyesore and a health hazard for them. They said that they were happy with the BBMP authorities for visiting the spot and assuring to fix the garbage problem but did nothing to beautify the black spots till date.

The Jai Jawan Nagar Residents' Welfare Association submitted a letter to the BBMP Chief Commissioner on June 21, 2025, urging authorities to take up intensive cleaning and development of footpaths. However, even after two months, no action has been taken. "We appealed to the BBMP Chief Commissioner to restore footpaths and prevent garbage dumping. We also requested installation of CCTV cameras and posting of marshals for a week to monitor violators dumping waste on footpaths," said Association President B Manimegalai Shanthakumari, expressing disappointment over BBMP's continued inaction despite repeated appeals from residents seeking safer, cleaner neighbourhood surroundings.

She said debris dumped on the footpath near Ganesh Temple must be cleared without delay. "Though BBMP workers clear garbage on nearby roads, they leave waste behind. Footpaths here remain neglected, turning into breeding grounds for rats," she added, stressing urgent action to protect residents' health and safety.

Demanding the BBMP Health Department to ensure quality in the cleaning work, Mani, a member of Jai Jawan Nagar Residents' Welfare Association said that he was not happy with apathy of the workers in cleaning the black spots. "They did not remove the waste on the 4th Cross", he said.

Blaming the BBMP health department for not ensuring door to door garbage collection on a regular basis, Sumithra Devi, Vice President of Jai Jawan Nagar Residents' Welfare Association demanded the authorities concerned to streamline the door-to-door collection of garbage. "One can see many people dumping garbage on the footpaths at night. Residents of this area also dump garbage on the footpath whenever there is a delay in collecting garbage from door to door", she said.

Meanwhile, BBMP Health Inspector Raghu Nandan assured a visit to the spot on Saturday. "I will ensure garbage is cleared from footpaths," he said. Whether BBMP authorities will finally provide residents relief from persistent garbage woes remains to be seen.

Tele-ECG, free injections in all govt. hospitals

Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao announced that tele-ECG facilities will soon be available in all taluk hospitals and community health centres across Karnataka to help detect and prevent sudden cardiac arrests. Responding to a query in the Legislative Council, he said tele-ECG will allow patients to access expert medical guidance locally, ensuring timely diagnosis and treatment.

The initiative builds on the Puneeth Rajkumar "Hridaya Jyothi" scheme, already operational in 86 government hospitals through the hub-and-spoke model, which has saved thousands of lives. With expansion to every taluk hospital and health centre, accessibility to emergency cardiac care will significantly improve.

The Minister further clarified that the life-saving Tenecteplase injection, which costs around ₹25,000, is being provided free of cost under the Hridaya Jyothi scheme to prevent sudden heart attacks.

With expansion, these injections will be available free across all government hospitals. Additionally, cath labs for advanced cardiac treatment are being set up in Mangaluru Wenlock, Bengaluru CV Raman Nagar, and Hospet hospitals. **— BMB**

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Commuter nightmare

Jeevanahalli

The under-bridge road at Jeevanahalli has become hazardous for daily commuters due to garbage heaps, stagnant water, slush, and foul odour, demanding urgent maintenance and attention.

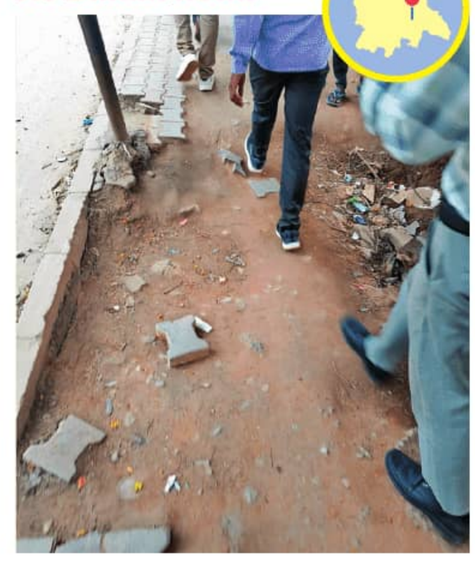
Footpath blocked

Mahalakshmi

Pedestrians are struggling to use the footpath beneath Mahalakshmi Metro Station, which remains encroached and poorly maintained. Locals claim traffic police have ignored the persistent problem.

Road danger

ITPL Main Road



The pedestrian walkway along ITPL Main Road is severely damaged, becoming nearly unusable during rains and creating a major safety hazard. Commuters urge authorities to restore it promptly.

Govt cuts class size limits in colleges

To enhance academic quality in government first-grade colleges, the Department of Collegiate and Technical Education has issued a directive reducing the maximum student strength in classes. For undergraduate courses in humanities, languages, commerce, and management, the limit is now 75 students, and for postgraduate courses, it's 50. In natural and applied sciences, the cap is 60 for undergraduate and 40 for postgraduate classes. If student numbers exceed these limits, colleges are required to open additional sections.

In practical classes, the student cap is 10 for UG and 12 for PG, unless the lab is large, in which case up to 20 students can be accommodated with two faculty members present. The order also warns principals and regional directors of disciplinary action if false data is entered into the Education Management Information System (EMIS).

Apply now for foreign languages

The Centre for Global Languages, Bengaluru City University, invites applications for admission to 8-month Certificate, Undergraduate Diploma, and Postgraduate Diploma courses in French, German, Spanish, Japanese, Chinese, Korean, and Russian for the academic year 2025–26. Eligible candidates—those who have passed II PUC/12th Standard for Certificate Courses and the previous level of the respective language for Diploma/PG Diploma—can apply by 27th September 2025, or with a late fee from 28th September to 3rd October 2025. For more details, contact 080-29572019 / 6361756549 or visit the Centre for Global Languages, Bengaluru City University, Palace Road, Prasanna Kumar Block, New Academic Block, 3rd Floor, Behind Central College, Near Mysore Bank Circle. Issued by Prof. Jyothi Venkatesh, Director, Centre for Global Languages. **–BMB**

MDS vacancy applications by Aug 24

The Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) has announced that applications for MDS (Postgraduate Dental) stray vacancy seats must be submitted by August 24, according to Executive Director H Prasanna. Following the reduction in NEET PG qualifying marks by the MCC, newly eligible candidates may now apply, while those who have already submitted applications also remain eligible to participate.

Further details on document verification will be released soon. Meanwhile, changes in the seat matrix have led to revisions in the second round of UG (UGCET/NEET) allotments, with several courses reopened for option entry. This includes 14 B.Sc. Nursing colleges, 12 Ayurveda colleges, and 2 Architecture colleges added to the matrix. Candidates are advised to check the KEA website regularly for updated availability and revise their options carefully. **–BMB**

Low pass results cost teachers their jobs

In a stern move linking accountability with student performance, BBMP has cancelled the services of 72 guest teachers and lecturers across its schools and colleges this academic year. Among them, 35 lacked the required educational qualifications, while 37 were penalised for consistently recording below 50% pass results in SSLC and II PUC over the past three years. Their honorarium payments have also been temporarily withheld.

The crackdown does not stop with guest teachers—BBMP has proposed extending disciplinary measures to permanent faculty with poor track records, including denial of promotions and transfers. Of the 37 penalised, 34 were high school staff and three PUC lecturers. For now, the 72 teachers will be retained until fresh recruitment is completed, ensuring minimal disruption for students. With 804 guest teachers currently serving in BBMP institutions, the move sends a strong signal. **–BMB**

Towards inclusive education

CBSE enforces strict compliance norms to strengthen inclusion of children with special needs

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
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In a renewed push toward inclusive education, the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has issued a comprehensive set of compliance measures for all affiliated schools to ensure the equitable enrollment and support of Children with Special Needs (CwSN). These measures come in response to growing concerns over the persistent gap between the intent of inclusion policies and their on-ground implementation. Despite a steady rise in the number of CwSN appearing for board examinations, CBSE has flagged the disproportionately low enrollment figures as a serious systemic shortcoming.

To address this, CBSE has mandated schools to adopt a Zero Refusal Policy, requiring them to admit all eligible CwSN candidates under the mandated reservation quota—specifically, a minimum of 3% of the 25% RTE quota, in accordance with state government rules. Schools must also publicly declare the number of reserved seats for CwSN at the time of admission and ensure these students get academic and infrastructural support within a barrier-free environment. Non-compliance will be treated as a serious violation of affiliation norms.

Further, schools are required to strictly implement accessible infrastructure standards, including ramps, lifts, accessible toilets, tactile signage, and other assistive features as outlined in CBSE's latest circular (No. 11/2024 dated August 9). Each school must also appoint at least one full-time, trained special educator, as per Clause 2.4.12 of the affiliation byelaws, to support the learning and development needs of CwSN. Schools must regularly update accurate student data on CBSE's OASIS and examination portals, including documentation related to exam concessions and accommodations.

In terms of pedagogy, CBSE has directed schools to adopt inclusive teaching strategies, such as differentiated instruction, assistive technologies, and accessible learning materials. To support this shift, schools are encouraged to utilize the Board's Handbook of Inclusive Education, which offers detailed guidance on best practices. All affiliated schools must engage in teacher capacity-building programmes focused on inclusive education, adhering to CBSE's training policies.

These compliance measures come against the backdrop of data from the PARAKH Rashtriya Sarvekshan 2024 report, which reveals that only 38% of schools have trained educators to handle CwSN, and many still lack basic accessibility features. While some progress has been made, such as 52% of CwSN receiving support from teachers, CBSE notes that the gap in infrastructure, training, and pedagogical adaptability remains significant. With the World Health Organization estimating that 15% of the population lives with some form of disability, current enrollment figures in CBSE schools fall far short of representing this reality.

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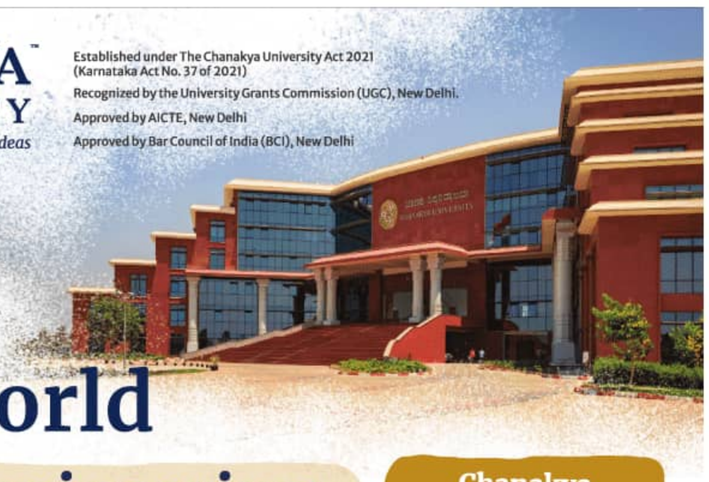

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BENGALURU SPEAKS

and gets heard on this page

STORYBEHINDTHEPHOTO

RAIN-WASHED REFLECTIONS SERENITY

Our reader shares a tranquil image of a rain-washed pool near their home, mirroring delicate lacy plants and graceful palm trees along its edge. The serene reflections on the still water capture nature's quiet charm, evoking a sense of freshness and calm after the showers.

The picture was clicked by BM reader **A Avani**

If you have a picture and a story to share, send us the picture with your name and number at **mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com**

DID YOU KNOW?

Giraffes, known for their towering necks and unique spots, are now recognized as four distinct species across Africa, according to a new analysis by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). Previously considered a single species, giraffes are now classified as Northern, Southern, Masai, and Reticulated giraffes, following extensive genetic and anatomical studies.

"This is absolutely the right decision, and long overdue," said ecologist Stuart Pimm of Duke University. Michael Brown of the IUCN noted that distinguishing species is crucial since "each has different population sizes, threats and conservation needs." Northern giraffes, found in areas such as South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo, are the most endangered, with only about 7,000 individuals left. Masai giraffes in Kenya and Tanzania face habitat loss as savannas turn into farmland, while Southern giraffes are the most numerous at around 69,000. Reticulated giraffes number about 21,000.

Advances in DNA sequencing, now costing around $100 per genome, allowed researchers to collect data from over 2,000 giraffes. Scientists stress that conserving each species individually is key to preventing further decline. — AP

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Let's see how much you know about Namma Bengaluru, folks. Tell us something incredible and mind-boggling about this beautiful city and our editors and researchers will check it out. If it's credible, we'll give it a shout-out, with your name and picture.

BDA shopping complex expansion stalled amid tender violations, trader resistance

Delays in Jayanagar's BDA project spark government review as vacating disputes and contractor violations halt Blocks 2, 3, and 4

Sridhar Vivan
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TWEETS @sridharvMirror

The construction of Blocks 2, 3, and 4 of the BDA Shopping Complex in Jayanagar's 4th Phase has been significantly delayed, raising concerns over completion timelines and inconvenience to traders and the public. The government has officially acknowledged that the project is currently stalled.

Replying in the Assembly recently, Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar said the delay was caused by violations of tender guidelines by contractors and the refusal of existing shop owners in these blocks to vacate their premises.

This has prevented the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) from handing over the construction area to the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA), forcing contractors to halt work.

He added that while Block 1 of the BDA Shopping Complex has already been handed over to the BBMP, blocks 2, 3, and 4 remain under partial control of traders. The government has imposed penalties on contractors for tender violations, though the exact number of fines and payments has been shared only with the concerned authorities.

To address the stalled work, the government is considering multiple options to complete the project within a set timeframe. This includes inviting fresh tenders if required and implementing measures to reduce inconvenience for traders and the public caused by incomplete construction.

> **"The project is stalled due to contractors violating tender guidelines and traders refusing to vacate... resolving these disputes is critical for resuming and completing the work**
>
> – Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar

"The BBMP will take charge of building Blocks 2, 3, and 4 after deliberations in the development authority meeting. Resolving disputes with traders and enforcing vacating orders is critical for resuming and completing the work," the Deputy CM said.

Authorities explore strict timelines and alternative measures to complete long-delayed redevelopment project amid growing concerns over public inconvenience

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Posts overestimate number of noncitizens living in US by tens of millions

After the Trump administration announced Thursday that it is reviewing the valid visas of more than 55 million people, social media users began misinterpreting this figure to exaggerate the number of noncitizens living in the United States by tens of millions. Posts online falsely claimed that these 55 million visa holders, combined with roughly 25 million or more undocumented immigrants, meant that nearly one-quarter to one-third of the US population consists of noncitizens. For context, the total US population is about 342 million, according to recent census estimates that provide an accurate demographic breakdown.

However, government data and expert analyses strongly contradict these claims. The figures circulating online are highly inflated and misleading, creating unnecessary fear and confusion among the public.

Claim: Social media posts claimed: "Approximately 70 million to 100 million people living in the US are not American citizens."

The Facts: This claim is false. According to the latest US Census Bureau data, nearly 22 million noncitizens lived in the US in 2023, which includes both legal and undocumented residents. This is far below the exaggerated numbers being shared online, demonstrating a clear gap between perception and reality.

The widely cited 55 million visas do not represent individuals living in the United States. That figure reflects the total number of valid visas issued globally, including tourist visas. Many visa holders do not reside in the US full-time, or even at all. For example, a person with a 10-year tourist visa may never move to the US permanently. In fact, the Department of Homeland Security reported that in 2024, about 3.6 million people were living in the US on temporary visas such as those for diplomats, students, exchange visitors, and temporary workers. This number does not include tourists or short-term visitors.

An additional 12.8 million individuals were lawful permanent residents—green card holders—during the same period. Experts also point out that the number of people living in the country without legal status is far lower than the figures being circulated. According to a recent Pew Research Centre report, the population of undocumented immigrants in the U.S. in 2023 was around 14 million.

Other estimates are similar: the Centre for Immigration Studies reported 14.2 million in July 2023, while the Centre for Migration Studies placed the figure at about 12.2 million as of mid-2023. These numbers are consistent with previous years and show no evidence of a sudden increase to 25 or 30 million, as Trump and some commentators have suggested. "The 55 million figure is the total number of visa holders worldwide, not people currently in the United States," said Aaron Reichlin-Melnick, a senior fellow at the American Immigration Council. Similarly, Michelle Mittelstadt of the Migration Policy Institute explained, "No one would consider a tourist who comes to the US for a week or two a US resident." In short, while the number of noncitizens in the US is significant, the online claims of 70 to 100 million are grossly inaccurate and misleading. The actual number is closer to 22 million—far less than one-third of the US population. — AP

Karnataka dams battle heavy monsoon

Aging reservoirs face peak inflows, repair delays, and funding disputes as Karnataka races to balance irrigation, flood control, and hydropower

Sridhar Vivan
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Bhadra and Linganamakki reservoirs operate under strict surveillance, repairing gates and managing inflows to safeguard downstream districts

As the peak monsoon pours over Karnataka, the state's dams—vital for irrigation, hydropower, and drinking water—are under intense scrutiny. Aging infrastructure, heavy inflows, and ongoing repairs make this season particularly critical for farmers and urban centres alike.

The Tungabhadra dam, a lifeline for Raichur, Koppal, Ballari, and Vijayanagar districts, is undergoing major repair work even as the rains continue. All 33 crest gates are being replaced to ensure structural safety. Six new gates are currently being fabricated at facilities in Gadag and Hosapete. "Equipment is arriving, Jindal is assisting, and Andhra engineers have been asked to speed up work," Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar said.

Water storage at Tungabhadra has been capped at 80 TMC to maintain safety, resulting in irrigation being suspended for the second crop. Drinking water and industrial supply, however, remain unaffected. Funding remains a contentious issue, with Karnataka bearing 66% of costs while Andhra Pradesh and Telangana have not contributed. "We even offered to pay their share, but they refused. Our priority is that farmers do not suffer," Shivakumar added, noting that his proposal for a balancing reservoir at Navile has not drawn a response from Andhra Pradesh.

Elsewhere, other major reservoirs are also under close watch. The Bhadra dam, which caters to Chikkamagaluru, Shivamogga, and downstream areas, has completed crucial repairs to its spillway gates. A minor leak in the left canal has been patched to ensure uninterrupted water flow. At Linganamakki reservoir, a key source for the 1,035 MW Sharavathi hydroelectric project, peak inflows are being managed through round-the-clock monitoring of gates and sluices to minimise flood risk downstream.

In coastal Karnataka, the Varahi reservoir—home to Asia's first underground hydroelectric project—continues to handle heavy inflows effectively. Engineers have been testing tunnels and gates to withstand intense rainfall. Harangi dam in Kodagu, after completing its spillway gate repairs, is regulating releases to protect paddy fields downstream.

> **"We even offered to pay their share, but they refused. Our priority is that farmers do not suffer** – DK Shivakumar
> Deputy Chief Minister

Kabini reservoir, serving Mysuru and Kodagu, has reached 90% capacity, with gates under strict supervision to balance irrigation, drinking water needs, and flood management.

Further north, the Almatti dam in Bagalkot is controlling water levels by limiting irrigation to prioritise structural safety. Ghataprabha dam, spanning Belagavi and Bagalkot districts, has finished inspections of its crest gates and is releasing water in a controlled manner to prevent downstream flooding. Malaprabha dam, also in Belagavi, has undergone structural assessments, with discharges carefully coordinated with local authorities. These measures underline the delicate balance between water storage, agricultural needs, and flood safety during the monsoon surge.

The Krishna River system, which includes upper and lower reservoirs, continues to witness high inflows. Coordination with Andhra Pradesh is critical to manage irrigation schedules and hydropower generation. Most of these dams, constructed between the 1950s and 1970s, face challenges such as siltation, which reduces live storage and increases maintenance requirements. Daily updates on inflows and reservoir levels are guiding release decisions to prevent disasters.

Officials say all major dams in Karnataka are under 24/7 surveillance. Emergency gates are ready at older structures to avoid mishaps. Continuous inspections of gates and spillways, combined with real-time monitoring of inflows, remain the state's primary defence against flooding. However, farmers who depend on reservoirs like Tungabhadra, Krishna, and Malaprabha are grappling with reduced irrigation supply due to safety caps, highlighting the ongoing struggle to balance agriculture with flood control.

Looking ahead, the government acknowledges the urgent need for modernisation. Upgrades such as the Varahi expansion and the ongoing overhaul at Tungabhadra are part of a long-term plan to ensure sustainable water supply, agricultural security, and power generation. This monsoon has once again underscored the pivotal role of Karnataka's reservoirs—and the pressing need for vigilance and investment to safeguard them for the future.

Rare Krishnadevaraya inscriptions found near Hampi

Two previously undocumented inscriptions referencing Vijayanagara emperor Sri Krishnadevaraya have been discovered at Kanive Timmalapura near Hampi by the Vijayanagara Itihasa Samshodhana team. These findings are significant because both inscriptions use the emperor's full name, "Sri Krishnadevaraya"—a rarity, as most inscriptions refer to him as "Krishnaraya." Until now, such references were recorded only at Kurugodu and Anantashayanagudi. The first inscription, engraved on granite, measures 12 feet high and 5 feet wide and contains 33 lines in Kannada script. It opens with "Ganadhipataye Shubhamastu" and features solar and lunar symbols on either side, along with Shankha (conch) and Chakra (discus) flanking a Vaishnava emblem.

The second inscription, carved on a natural rock near a canal outside the village, begins with solar and lunar motifs and the phrase "Swasti Shri Vijayabhyudaya Shalivahana Shaka Varsha Shrimukha Samvatsara," indicating the same era. Both inscriptions honor Krishnadevaraya with the title "Rajadhiraja Raja Parameshwara" and blend Kannada and Telugu, reflecting the Vijayanagara Empire's rich multilingual culture. — BMB

SIT arrests whistleblower in Dharmasthala scandal

The Special Investigation Team (SIT) probing sensational allegations of murders, rapes, and secret burials in Dharmasthala has arrested the whistleblower himself. Officials confirmed that the masked complainant who appeared before the panel was identified as CN Chinnaiah, a former sanitation worker. He was arrested late Friday after hours of questioning and produced before Judicial Magistrate Vijayendra, who granted the SIT 10 days' custody. Investigators cited inconsistencies in his statements and documents as the reason for the arrest.

Chinnaiah had claimed he worked in Dharmasthala between 1995 and 2014, during which he was allegedly forced to bury bodies, some showing signs of sexual assault. He had earlier recorded a statement before a magistrate, prompting the SIT to conduct excavations at multiple sites. Skeletal remains were recovered from at least two locations during the search.

File photo of security personnel with the whistleblower, in mask

Meanwhile, YouTuber MD Sameer, who was booked for uploading provocative content related to the case, has been summoned for questioning on August 24. Sameer, who secured anticipatory bail from a Mangaluru court, is accused of spreading misinformation likely to disturb public order, though he claims his videos highlight issues ignored by the media. — BMB

Monsoon session passes record 39 Bills

The 16th Karnataka Legislature's monsoon session, held from August 11 to Friday, set a record by passing 39 bills in the Assembly the highest in its history while the Legislative Council approved 37. The Assembly session spanned nine days and 70 hours, with proceedings lasting 54.25 hours. Traditionally, about 20 bills are cleared, making this year's count unprecedented.

In the Assembly, 2,306 questions were accepted, including 135 starred questions, with 95 answered on the floor. Of 1,296 written questions, over 789 received responses. The Council admitted 1,431 questions and answered 26 of 71 Zero Hour notices. It cleared four bills with amendments and 33 without, while three bills were withdrawn, marking a highly productive session. — BMB

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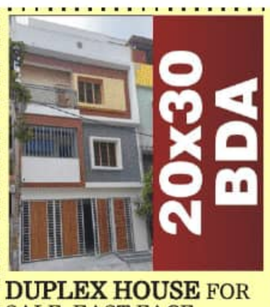

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tender & notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client SHRI.ABHIGHNA.C S/o SHRI.CHENNAKESHAVA MURTHY, (9886783490) intends to purchase the below mentioned "Schedule property" for valuable consideration from the owner SMT. SOWMYA.J W/o UMESH.K. Any person/s, entity, firms, societies, authority, claiming to have any right, title, interest, benefit, claim or demand in or to the schedule property and or any part thereof, by way of sale, exchange, gift, lease, tenancy, license, assignment, charge, lien, encumbrance, inheritance, bequest, easement, possession, maintenance, Power of Attorney order/decree/judgment of any court, agreement or otherwise however to the schedule property shall file his/her/its/their objections/claims with true copies of documentary proof in support thereof, to the under signed, at the address given below within Ten days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which, my client will be proceed with the sale transaction.

All the piece and parcel of vacant residential property bearing No.1, BBMP Khatha No.281/258/85/1/1, Electronic Khatha/ E-PID Number. 9781066537, issued by Revenue Department BBMP, situated at Hongasandra Village, Begur Hobli, Bengaluru south Taluk, Now with the Purview of BBMP Ward No. 189-Hongasandra, Bengaluru, Measuring East to West- Northern Side 31.5 feet, Southern Side 33 feet and North to South- Eastern Side 49 feet, Western Side 47.5 feet,Total Extent Measuring 1556 Sq.ft, constructed building with thereon Slit, Ground, First, Second, Third & Fourth floors and bounded on:

East by:: 25 feet Road,
West by:: others property,
North by :: Private Property,
South by :: 25 feet Road.

Sd/-
HARISH.B.M., Advocate
Office No: 31-A, V.H.B.C.S Layout, Pipeline Road, Kurubharahalli, Mahalakshmipuram, Bengaluru- 86.
Ct: 7411361244
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MEDICAL

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personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I Crystal Steevan W/o A.Ajesh R/o No- 30, 1st Cross, KEB Road, Vinayaka Layout, BTM 1st Stage, B'luru -560068 have changed my name to Crystal George Steevan for all purposes

I Swetha D Ragavendra, D/o. C R Kumar, residing at Rohan Akriti F405, F Block, Survey No.53,1 and 394, JHCS Layout, Subramanyapura Post, Gubbalala, Uttarahalli Hobli, Off Kanakapura Road, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560061, I have changed my son name to ADITYA N from ADITYA RAGAVENDRA, VIDE AFFIDAVIT DATED:13.08.2025 before notary N Sandhya, Bangalore

I, NASRULLA SHARIFF GAFFAR SHARFF (Old name), S/o Gaffar Shariff, Address: No.72, 5th Cross, Opposite Colive heritage, Maruthi HBCS layout, BTM 1st stage, Bangalore - 560029 have changed my name to NASRULLA SHARIFF (new name), vide affidavit dated: 22/8/2025 Before Notary SRINIVASA D Bangalore.

I, (old name) Gungun D/o Gangashwar Tripathi residing at MAP 319/51, AFS Training Command PO JC Nagar, Bangalore 560006, have changed my name from (old name) Gungun to (new name) Kalyani Tripathi vide affidavit dtd 01/08/2025 sworn before notary G.R. Ravichandra Reddy, Bangalore.

I, Prakash Shridhar Hegde, Residing at H2, Wilasa, Next to Prestige Falcon City, Forum Mall, Doddakallasandra, Bangalore-560062, Have changed my minor Son name PRANAV to PRANAV PRAKASH HEGDE vide affidavit dated 23/08/2025 sworn before Notary Aravind Patil G.G Bangalore

I, SYED ALTHAF AHAMMAD (Old Name) resident of No.3/12, 4th Cross, Nehru Road, New Guddadahalli, Bangalore-560026 have changed my name to ALTAF AHMED (New Name) vide affidavit dated: 22/8/2025 Before Notary Deepa.M Bangalore.

I Mohammed Ajaz S/o Ismail Mohammed R/o No 1447 13th Cross R.K. Hegde Nagar Dr. Shivarama Karthi Nagar B'luru 560077 I have changed my name to Ajaz Mohammed Ismail for all purposes.

I Mushtak Ahmed R/at No E401 Behind Prajwal Clinic Near Farida Shoe Factory Govindapura Bangalore 560045 have changed my name to Mushtak Ahmed Gafur Kainjur For All Purposes.

I Lakshme Gouda Mallagowdanahalli Nanjegouda R/o 160 Mig 707 Chs 4Th Phase, Yelahanka New Town, B'luru-560064 have changed my name to Lakshme Gowda Mallagowdanahalli Nanjegouda.

I, Srinivasa Rupa W/o Kenjar Prabhakar Rao R/o #21, Srinivasa, Dee Enclave, 2nd Cross, Sahakarnagar Post, Kodige Halli, Bengaluru - 560092, have changed my name to Rupaprabhakar for all purposes

I Santosh Ramesh Chandra Mahajan S/O, Ramesh Chandra Mahajan R/o 28/301, Mantri Residency, Near Meenakshi Temple, Bennarghatta Road , Bangalore 560076 have changed my name to Santosh Mahajan.

Erratic driver behaviour needs to be curbed

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

daily hurdle for them. They said that they need to wait for more than 30 minutes to cross the 50-metre stretch under the flyover during the peak hours. They blame heavy vehicles and poor driver behaviour as the root cause of the traffic jams at the intersection.

"There are incidents of some unruly drivers manhandling parents going to drop their children at the nearby school. I demand the traffic police and the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) fix this problem without any delay," said R Albert, Founding member of Cooke Town Residents' Association.

Heavy vehicles issue

Demanding the authorities concerned ban heavy vehicles passing through the underpass and the intersection, Som Thomas, a resident on 6th Cross, Hutchins Road, said Fraser Town Traffic Police have committed that they would post a traffic constable on all weekdays at 8 am and again 9 am to 12 noon and then 4 pm and another round from 5 pm to 8 pm. "If they keep up the commitment, that will suffice, since the gridlocks are sporadic - but when they occur, the gridlocks are severe. People have been held up for 45 minutes just trying to cross a 50 metres stretch," he said.

It is said that honorary traffic wardens have no interest in managing dusty and smoky intersections such as these. "There have been instances of people disregarding traffic assistants, and manhandling them as well. So traffic constables, or higher, have to be deployed from the limited staff available. One has to admit that poor driver behaviour is the root cause of the traffic jams at this intersection. A little patience, such as in waiting 15 seconds to give way to another vehicle, will avoid the need for Traffic Police to be posted," Som Thomas said.

Joseph Gerard, another resident of the area, suggested that traffic police install road barriers to regulate the traffic. Prasun Banerjee, a resident, said the authorities must ban movement of heavy vehicles at the intersection under the flyover.

Arlette Aloysius, a resident, said that traffic jams during the peak hours have become a nuisance. "The traffic police must regulate vehicular movement at the intersection during the peak hours," she said.

A traffic police constable, on the condition of anonymity, said the poor condition of the underpass is also contributing to traffic jams during the peak hours. "There are a few potholes and craters at the underpass. The need of the hour is to fix those potholes and craters to facilitate smooth movement of vehicles," the traffic constable said.

Meanwhile, Pulakeshinagar Traffic Police Inspector has said that he had already informed the BBMP Traffic Engineering Cell to install road barriers at the intersection under the flyover.

"We are posting traffic police constables at the intersection to manage traffic during the peak hours. There is a proposal to construct one more underpass on the other side of the flyover", said the traffic police inspector.

Scientific approach

Students with India March for Science awareness protest at Freedom Park in Bengaluru on Saturday

B'luru miffed by Women's World Cup shift

The ICC has officially moved the Women's One Day International World Cup matches from Bengaluru's Chinnaswamy Stadium to Navi Mumbai's D.Y. Patil Stadium, dealing a major setback to the Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA) and upsetting cricket fans in Bengaluru.

While Navi Mumbai gains the privilege of hosting the tournament's opening match, semifinals, and final, Bengaluru has lost out due to safety concerns following a tragic stampede at an RCB event that led to 11 deaths. The Karnataka government withheld permissions citing Chinnaswamy's inadequate security measures, including reduced electricity supply, forcing the ICC to relocate the fixtures just a month before the tournament. This last-minute shift has left Bengaluru's cricket followers disappointed, as their city misses out on one of the sport's biggest events. **BMB**

Geo-tagging of all homes in state kicks off

The Karnataka State Commission for Backward Classes will launch its Social and Educational Survey today, with the unique step of geo-tagging every household through electricity meter readers. Commission Chairman Madhusudhan R Naik urged citizens to cooperate to ensure no home is left out of the enumeration process.

The first phase involves listing and mapping all residences based on RR numbers linked to electricity connections, making Karnataka the first state to leverage 100% electrification for a foolproof household survey. Meter readers will record household data using a specially developed mobile app, upload it to EDCS servers, and assign a unique number to each home, including apartments and housing clusters. Stickers will also be affixed to homes for easy identification by enumerators.

This technology-driven method—designed with the support of the Energy Department, EDCS, and e-Governance teams—will enable systematic data collection across the state.

The second phase of the survey, covering detailed socio-educational aspects, is scheduled between September 22 and October 7, 2025, coinciding with school holidays.

The Commission emphasized that this massive data exercise, expected to cover nearly seven crore people, will not only capture the socio-educational status of backward classes and other communities but also provide reliable information for implementing present and future government welfare programmes. **BMB**

HC: No judicial nod for bike taxis, state can take call

The Karnataka High Court has clarified that it has not passed any order allowing bike taxi services to resume, even as several operators returned to city roads. A division bench led by Chief Justice Vibhu Bakhru stated that while the government may act against bike taxi aggregators under the law, enforcement agencies should not harass individual vehicle owners. The court stressed that its earlier concern was only to prevent undue hardship to riders and owners, not to permit operations.

During the hearing, Advocate General Shashikiran Shetty pointed out that some companies had restarted services without judicial approval, while counsel for riders argued that authorities were seizing motorcycles. The bench reiterated that no interim order had been issued and adjourned the matter to September 22 for final disposal, noting that it was up to the state to decide on framing a policy for bike taxis. **BMB**

Pork boom in China may hit city's badminton scene

A rather unusual crisis could soon trouble Bengaluru's thriving badminton community. Shuttles, the heart of the game, are in short supply worldwide, and the root cause traces back to China's changing food habits.

With pork prices dropping sharply over the past six months, Chinese farmers have shifted focus from rearing ducks and geese—whose feathers are essential for shuttlecock production—to pig farming.

As a result, global supply of quality feathers has crashed, pushing shuttle prices up by 30–40% and leaving even elite academies, including the Gopichand Academy, with barely two weeks' stock. A single match consumes up to two dozen shuttles, and with international tournaments preferring goose-feather versions, the demand is far higher than the current supply. **BMB**

What about the aggressive dogs?

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"BBMP can consult feeders in that area and get details on various aspects, such as the number of dogs they feed and streets these dogs belong to. If possible, a meeting with feeders should be held to arrive at a consensus. Changing feeding spots of dogs overnight will not work.

Moreover, the spot should be slightly away from major public and traffic movement and should be large enough to accommodate multiple groups of dogs without conflict," said Sudha Narayanan, founder trustee of CARE, the animal welfare NGO that manages BBMP's rabies helpline.

Some suggestions

Experts also say that waste bins should be installed near the feeding spots, and feeders should be responsible for cleanliness of the feeding area. A well-lit board should be put up at every feeding spot with dos and don'ts and phone numbers of BBMP officials concerned.

Narayanan also suggests ID cards for feeders, with their details given to the local police station so they can seek protection from the police in case of harassment by the public.

Experts say the feeding stations should be used to identify unsterilised and unvaccinated dogs, too.

"Given the current situation, when feeders are facing harassment, areas where feeders are unable to feed must be picked for feeding by BBMP to ensure dogs are not restless due to lack of food. Second priority must be wards with the highest bite cases and larger packs," said Sadhana Hegde, founder of Sahavarthin Animal Welfare Trust.

According to Chitra Amzarewale Sapre, a representative of the District Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, dog territory should be considered while identifying feeding spots.

"Due to increased population, dog territory changes every 100 to 200 metres, and sometimes it's as small as 50 metres. Each territory should have at least one feeding point.

Marking feeding points in each territory is important for feeders so that they do not get harassed for being compassionate. Areas with a smaller dog population can have food pipes," said Sapre.

Aggressive dog identification

BBMP officials also clarified that aggressive dogs for impounding, as directed by SC, will be identified based on Section 16 of the Animal Birth Control (ABC) Rule, 2023.

As per Section 16 of ABC Rule 2023, aggressive dogs are dogs that have bitten someone.

However, experts say the claim of being bitten should be verified by the municipal body, and dogs should not be impounded based on hearsay.

A bite claim should be verified by CCTV camera footage or evidence of post-exposure rabies vaccine taken by the person claiming to have been bitten.

Experts say a committee including members of the BBMP, a representative of a reputed AWBI animal welfare NGO, animal activists, and an animal behaviour specialist should be set up for this task, too.

Moreover, there should have been multiple incidents of aggression and biting, with video recordings as evidence. A fair and just hearing should be given to the aggrieved party, and then only a decision taken to remove the dog permanently from the road

"In the case of bites by rabies-suspected dogs, these are already being evaluated by a Rabies Task Force based on complaints to the Rabies helpline run by CARE and Mission Rabies for the BBMP.

Each case is discussed on an immediate and priority basis, and the pick-up is done for isolation in a speedy manner," added Narayanan.

HEALTH TIP: Having a dessert or a piece of chocolate closer to the bedtime is not a good idea as it delays the process of your body falling asleep

Walnuts contain polyphenols, vitamin E, and omega-3s, all of which help fight against inflammation

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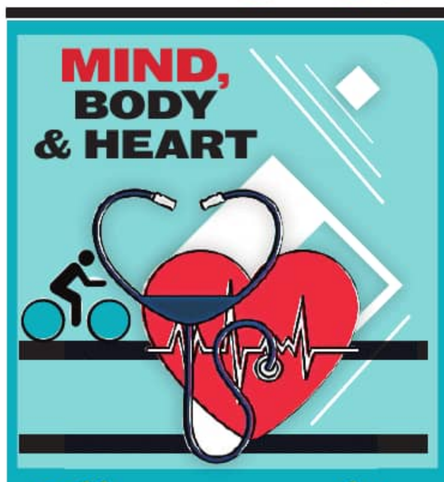


All you need to know about...

Intermittent Fasting

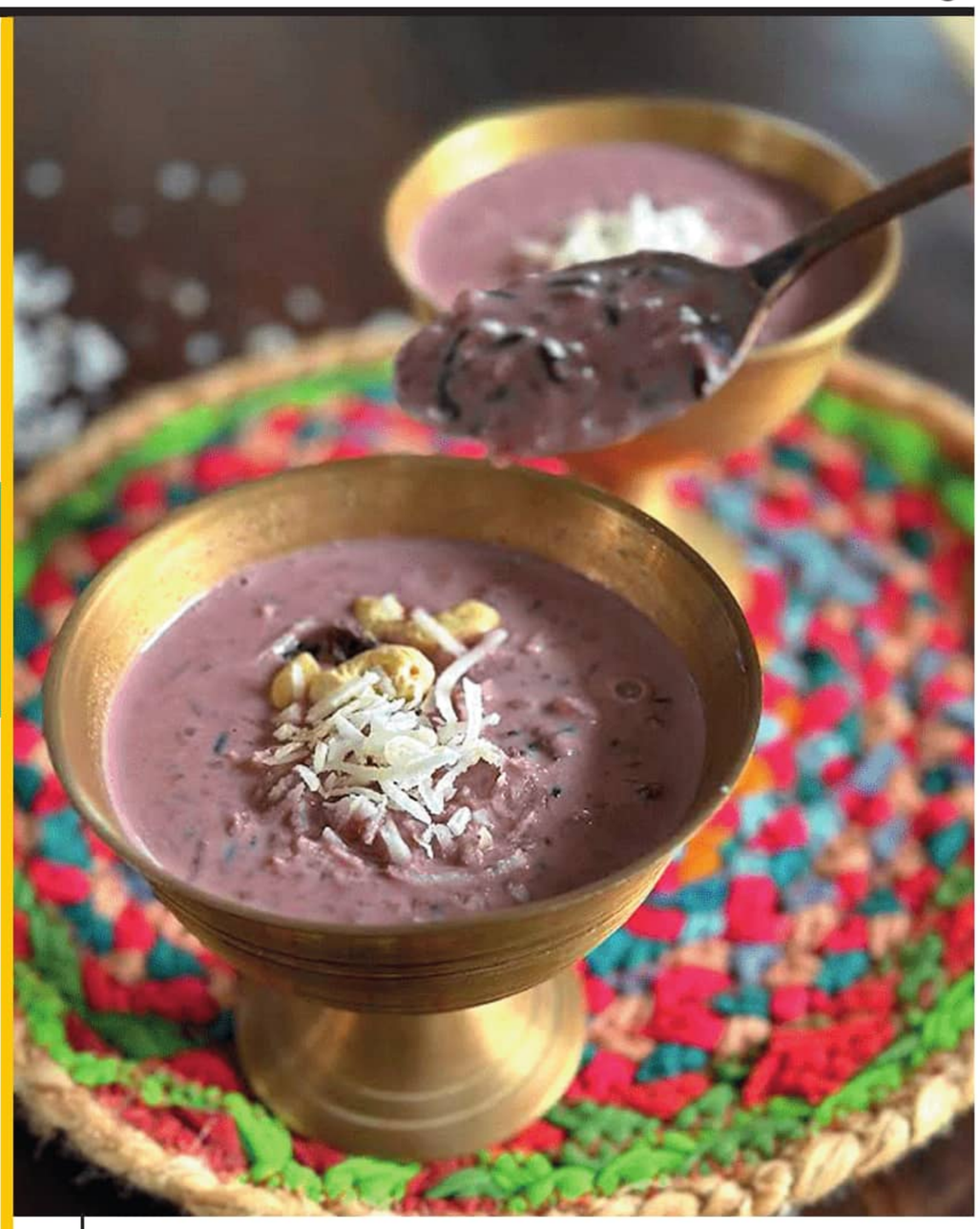
What is it?
Intermittent fasting (IF) is not a diet but it is supposed to be an eating pattern where you alternate between periods of eating and fasting. Popular methods include:
16/8 method: 16 hours of fasting, 8 hours of eating
5:2 plan: 5 days of normal eating, 2 days of reduced calorie intake
12/12 split: 12 hours of fasting, 12 hours of eating
Many Indian women turn to IF for weight management, improved energy, and better metabolic health.

How it impacts the body
"Scientific studies suggest fasting can enhance insulin sensitivity, encourage fat metabolism, and reduce inflammation," explains Pariksha Rao, Director, Nutrition & Medical Affairs at The Good Bug on its metabolic benefits.
On the gut health she says, "When the digestive system gets regular breaks, the gut lining has a chance to repair and regenerate. Fasting also encourages the growth of diverse gut bacteria, which play a role in digestion, immunity, hormone regulation, and even mood," who adds that hormonal systems are sensitive to calorie and nutrient availability.
"Aggressive fasting can raise cortisol levels while disrupting estrogen and progesterone balance, affecting menstrual cycles, fertility, and thyroid function."

Why Indian women should exercise caution
Women in India face unique health challenges such as, Obesity: According to NFHS-5 data, 33.5% of urban women and 19.7% of rural women are obese.
Related risks: PCOS, gestational diabetes, miscarriage, and adverse pregnancy outcomes are increasing. Lifestyle-related health problems are appearing earlier among women than men.
For some women, this fasting pattern may worsen acid reflux, gastritis, or IBS. Long fasts can reduce fibre intake, harming the beneficial gut bacteria. **–Femina**

Look North-East

Curated recipes from an unexplored cuisine



LAU KHAR SOUP (BOTTLE GOURD KHAR)

INGREDIENTS:
- Chopped Bottle Gourd - 1
- Green Chillies
- Crushed Garlic - 4/5 florets
- Soda Bicarb or Assamese Banana Peel Khar
- Rice flour - 2 tbsp
- Salt and Mustard Oil
- Coriander Leaves

METHOD:
- Step 1: Heat oil in a pan.
- Step 2: Add garlic and green chilli and sauté until aromatic.
- Step 3: Add chopped gourd and cook for 10–15 minutes, stirring occasionally.
- Step 4: Add alkali (khar/khatti or edible alkali) and slow cook for another 10 minutes.
- Step 5: Check seasoning and adjust salt as needed.
- Step 6: Once the gourd is cooked, add rice flour and mix well, ensuring the consistency is smooth
- and even. Add North Eastern coriander leaves and stir gently.
- Step 7: Before serving, drizzle a few teaspoons of raw mustard oil on top for flavor.

BLACK RICE KHEER

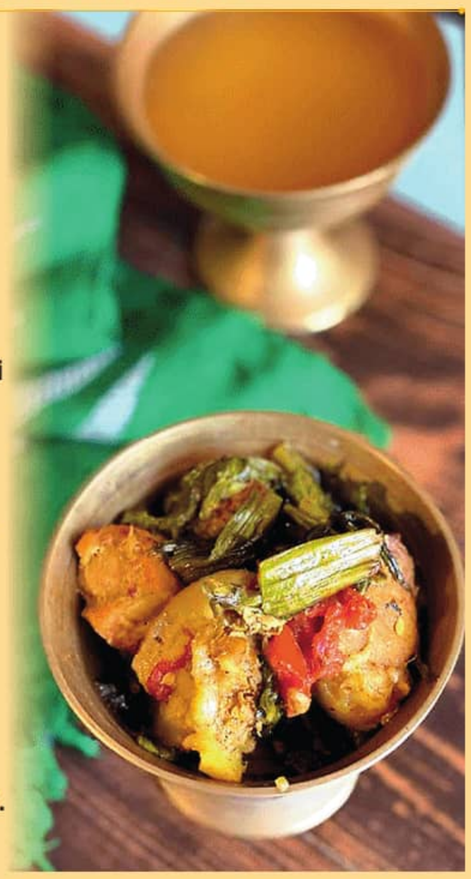
INGREDIENTS:
- 100 gms rice soaked
- 1.5 liters of full-fat milk
- Sugar
- Dry fruits
- Coconut Flakes
- Elaichi crushed

METHOD:
- Step 1: Take a heavy-bottomed vessel and pour in the milk.
- Step 2: Boil the milk until it reduces in quantity, stirring occasionally to prevent it from sticking.
- Step 3: Add the soaked rice and continue to slow cook, stirring continuously.
- Step 4: Notice how the rice releases a beautiful color into the milk.
- Step 5: Cook for about 20 minutes until the rice softens slightly while retaining a nutty bite.
- Step 6: Add sugar and the remaining ingredients (flavorings like cardamom, nuts, or saffron, as desired).
- Mix well and let it simmer briefly to absorb the flavors.
- Serve the kheer either chilled or at room temperature.

PORK WITH MUSTARD GREENS

INGREDIENTS:
- Pork - 500 gms
- Mustard Greens - 250 gms
- Ginger Garlic - 2 tsp each
- Onion - 1 sliced
- Tomato
- Salt and Turmeric
- Chillies or Bhut Jolokia

METHOD:
- Step 1: Take a heavy-bottomed kadhai and add the pork along with some water.
- Step 2: Slow cook the pork for 20–25 minutes.
- Step 3: Add onion, ginger-garlic, chillies, salt, and turmeric. Continue to cook for another 20–25 minutes,
- or until the pork is about 80–90% cooked.
- Step 4: Add tomatoes and roughly hand-torn greens. Cook on an open flame, allowing the excess waterto dry up as the pork cooks through.
- Check seasoning and adjust if needed. Serve hot with sticky rice or plain steamed rice.



Recipes by Gitika Saikia, visiting chef at JW Marriott Hotel Bengaluru

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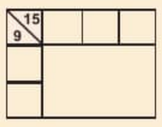
facebook.com/theBangaloremirror
@BangaloreMirror

SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

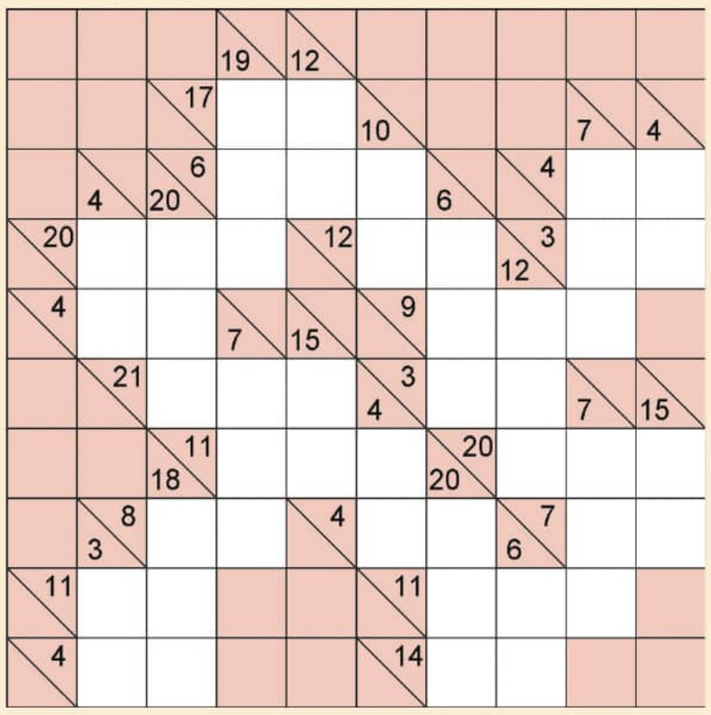
4 x 4 + 4 – 4÷4 – 9 = ?

Kakuro

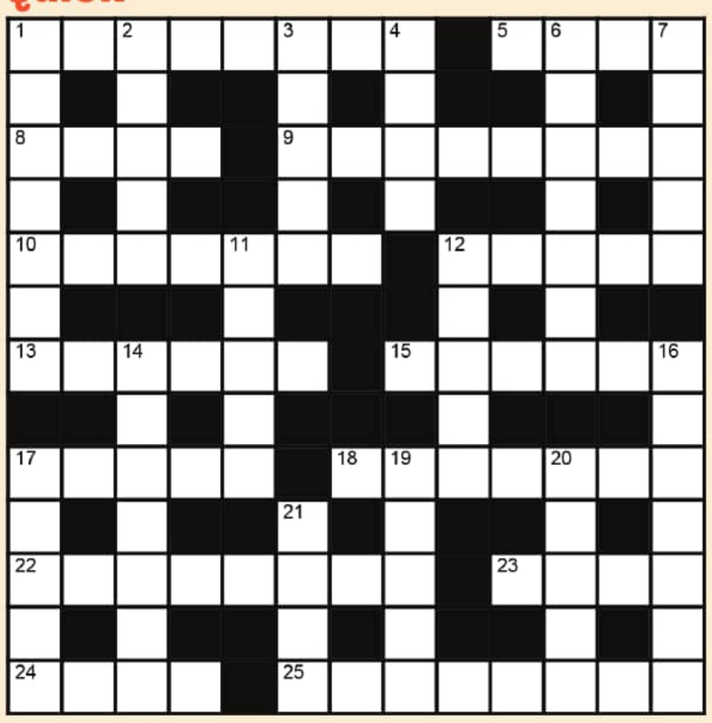
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Thrashes or beats soundly (8)
5 Help a felon (4)
8 Orchard product (4)
9 Tubular pasta (8)
10 Pariah (7)
12 Banishment (5)
13 Hospital on Bannerghatta Road (6)
15 The Creator in Hindu mythology (6)
17 Demolishes or ruins, in a way (5)
18 The Chronicles of Narnia author (1,1,5)
22 Successfully obtain a position (4,4)
23 Wicked (4)
24 Regretted (4)
25 Aloofness (8)

DOWN

1 Cassava starch (7)
2 Work __ __ : painting or sculpture (2,3)
3 Searches thoroughly (5)
4 Religious body (4)
6 Studious (7)
7 Two times (5)
11 Spindles, revolving shafts (5)
12 Swashbuckler Flynn (5)
14 Rain __ __ : fair weather or foul? (2,5)
16 Pardon of sin (7)
17 Rest and relaxation, abbr. (1,3,1)
19 Musical compositions (5)
20 Formed by interlacing long threads (5)
21 Burden or weight (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: H EQUALS G

RVG GHI WP ZIRVWZH IRVGE RVXZ RVG MIKQP IM KIZPK-WIQP XRRGZRWIZ.

Linemaro

Is your dad a preacher? Because you are a blessing

Mindchow

Man cannot learn to forget, but hangs on the past: However far or fast he runs, that chain runs with him

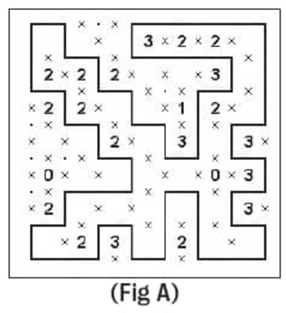
Joke of the day

What a childhood I had. My parents sent me to a child psychiatrist. The kid didn't help me at all

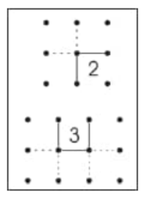
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

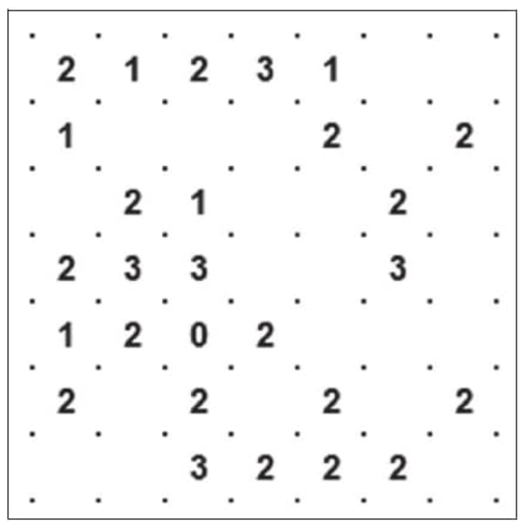


(Fig B) Not Allowed

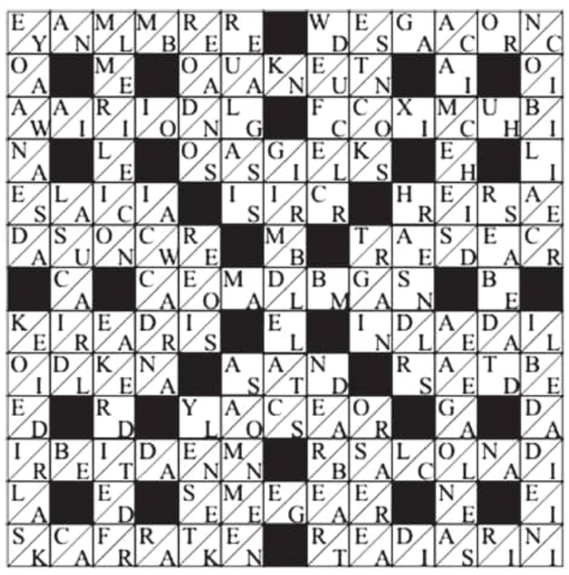
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



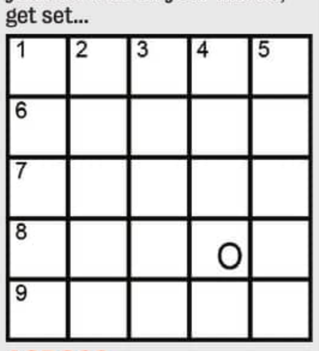
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

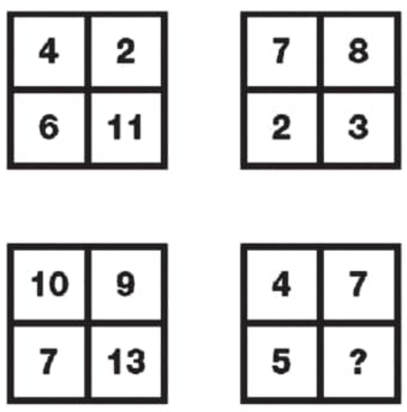
1 Earls; 6 Lex CE;
7 Rates; 8 Or war;
9 Waist

DOWN

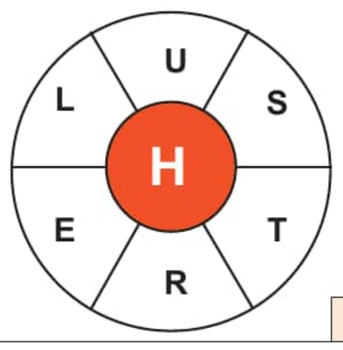
1 Wears; 2 Taxer;
3 I a car; 4 Let or;
5 Sew LS

Mensapuzzle

Which number replaces the question mark and completes the puzzle?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

08 Average; **09** Good; **11** Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

6			2		7			8
7		8	3	5	1	2		4
		3				1		
	6						9	
			9		6			
	8						7	
		9				7		
4		2	1	9	5	6		3
1			7		2			9

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 15
2 5 5 7

Medium = 2
3 4 6 7

Hard = 15
6 6 7 9

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

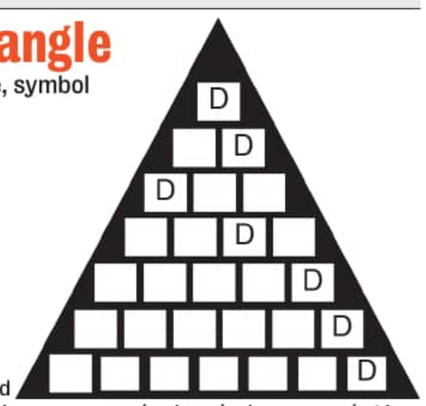
Differences: 1. Wall is wider. 2. Bag is larger. 3. Shoelace is missing. 4. Bench is longer. 5. Bench support is not visible. 6. Front of sneaker is different.

Riddler

I'm in an elevator with two other people. When it reaches the first floor, one person gets out and six get in. When it reaches the second floor, three people get out and twelve get in. At the third floor, five leave and nine enter. It rises to the fourth floor, one person gets on and the doors close. Suddenly, the elevator cable snaps and the car smashes to the ground. No one survives the fall, yet I'm alive and know exactly how many people go on and off the elevator at every floor. How is this possible?

Alpha triangle

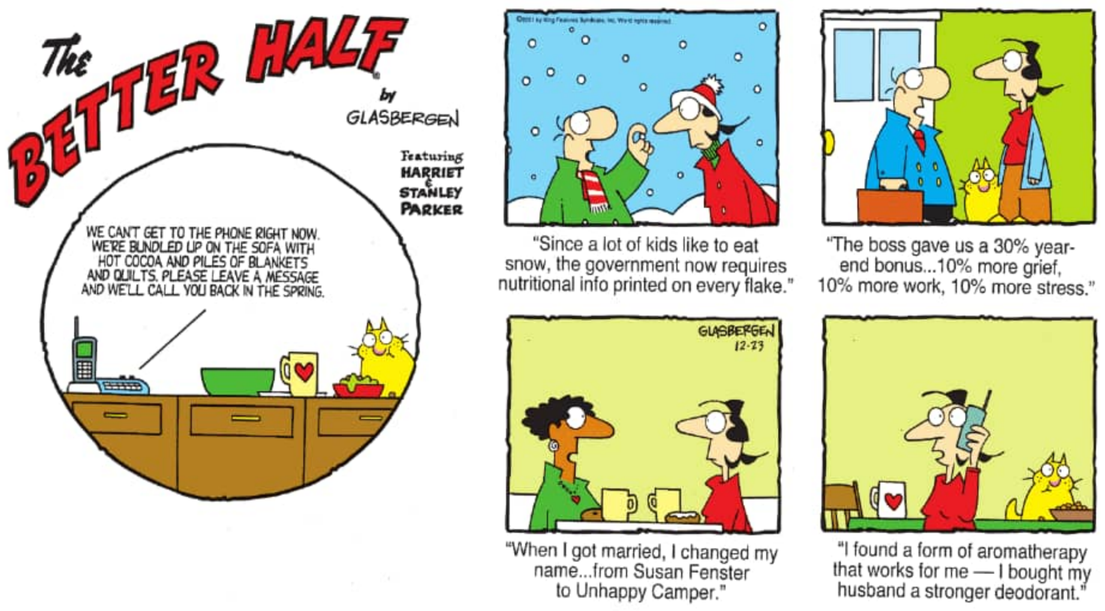
1 Hydrogen isotope, symbol
2 Anno Domini
3 Water holder
4 Created
5 Dubbed
6 Supply and _
7 Corrected

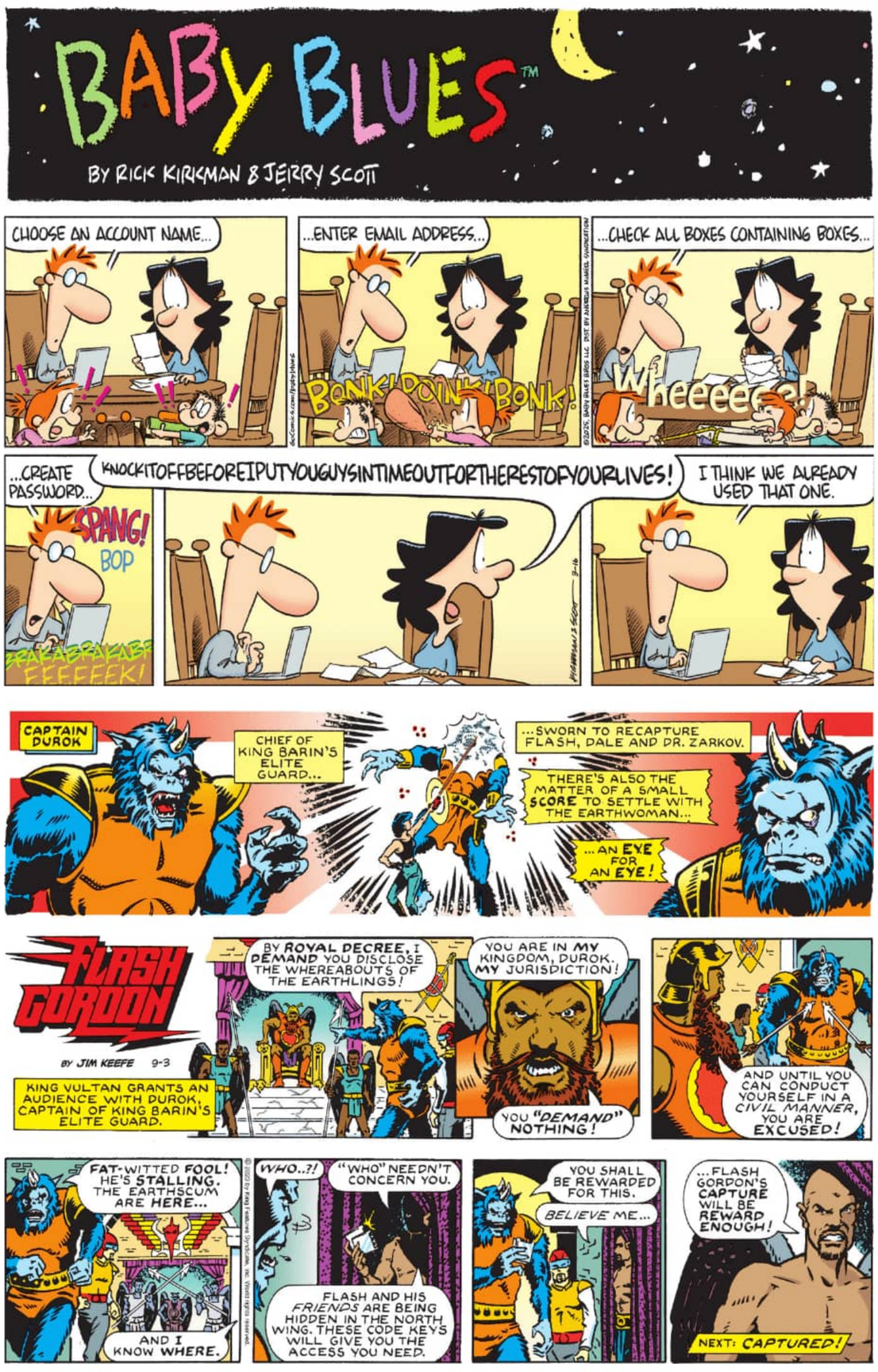


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE »

COMICS


The BETTER HALF
by GLASBERGEN
Featuring HARRIET & STANLEY PARKER
WE CAN'T GET TO THE PHONE RIGHT NOW. WE'RE BUNDLED UP ON THE SOFA WITH HOT COCOA AND PILES OF BLANKETS AND QUILTS. PLEASE LEAVE A MESSAGE AND WE'LL CALL YOU BACK IN THE SPRING.
"Since a lot of kids like to eat snow, the government now requires nutritional info printed on every flake."
"The boss gave us a 30% year-end bonus...10% more grief, 10% more work, 10% more stress."
GLASBERGEN 12-23
"When I got married, I changed my name...from Susan Fenster to Unhappy Camper."
"I found a form of aromatherapy that works for me — I bought my husband a stronger deodorant."


BABY BLUES
BY RICK KIRKMAN & JERRY SCOTT
CHOOSE AN ACCOUNT NAME...
...ENTER EMAIL ADDRESS...
BONK! BONK! BONK!
...CHECK ALL BOXES CONTAINING BOXES...
Wheeeeeee!
...CREATE PASSWORD...
SPANG! BOP
KNOCKITOFFBEFOREIPUTYOUGUYSINTIMEOUTFORTHERESTOFYOURLIVES!
I THINK WE ALREADY USED THAT ONE.
CAPTAIN DUROK
CHIEF OF KING BARIN'S ELITE GUARD...
...SWORN TO RECAPTURE FLASH, DALE AND DR. ZARKOV.
THERE'S ALSO THE MATTER OF A SMALL SCORE TO SETTLE WITH THE EARTHWOMAN...
...AN EYE FOR AN EYE!
FLASH GORDON
BY JIM KEEFE 9-3
KING VULTAN GRANTS AN AUDIENCE WITH DUROK, CAPTAIN OF KING BARIN'S ELITE GUARD.
BY ROYAL DECREE, I DEMAND YOU DISCLOSE THE WHEREABOUTS OF THE EARTHLINGS!
YOU ARE IN MY KINGDOM, DUROK. MY JURISDICTION!
YOU "DEMAND" NOTHING!
AND UNTIL YOU CAN CONDUCT YOURSELF IN A CIVIL MANNER, YOU ARE EXCUSED!
FAT-WITTED FOOL! HE'S STALLING. THE EARTHSCUM ARE HERE...
AND I KNOW WHERE.
WHO..?!
"WHO" NEEDN'T CONCERN YOU.
FLASH AND HIS FRIENDS ARE BEING HIDDEN IN THE NORTH WING. THESE CODE KEYS WILL GIVE YOU THE ACCESS YOU NEED.
YOU SHALL BE REWARDED FOR THIS.
BELIEVE ME...
...FLASH GORDON'S CAPTURE WILL BE REWARD ENOUGH!
NEXT: CAPTURED!

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, blessings from elders may make you confident. You can follow your intuition before taking any initiatives that may help you at work. Your intuition may help you gain more in terms of finance. You are likely to visit some religious place with your family members. You must control your arrogance to enjoy your domestic life. Students may expect good results with the help of destiny.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, you may expect some instant gains in your business, which may boost your confidence level as well as your bank balance. It is advised to avoid stress in domestic life. There would be some momentum on the business and work fronts. Your prestige may be increased. You may also plan for an overseas trip.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, things would not be favourable. You may feel dull and unhappy. Some mysterious fear may make you upset. You are likely to be attracted to the occult. You may feel a lack of confidence, which may affect your work. It is best to avoid rash driving and risky adventure tours.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you are blessed by the moon. Love would be in the air in terms of personal life. Singles may find a suitable match. You may do better in terms of your professional life. Your friends and subordinate staff are likely to support you.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, you may be able to make a balance between your earnings and expenses, which may boost your bank balance. You are likely to perform better in your job. Your boss can give you new responsibilities in terms of promotions. You may get back your money, which was stuck. You may be able to control your opponents and hidden enemies.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, you may feel dull due to sleeplessness; you may be scattered towards your goals, which may affect your working efficiency. You may plan to visit a religious place. But in the late evening, you may be blessed by your elders; you may find out your mistakes and make a good plan for the coming day. You are advised to take care of your parents' health.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, you may be in a hurry. You are advised to drive safely. But with the blessing of the elders, you may come out of this messy situation. You are likely to be more romantic in your love life, and harmony in your domestic life may come. You may expect some positive results in new partnerships. Love birds may enjoy their happy moments.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, your subordinate staff may be cooperative, which may help you complete postponed projects. You are likely to join some social events, which may boost your network and help you in your work or social life. You may plan to go on an outing with friends. Some disputes with friends may be settled now. Students are advised to avoid carelessness.

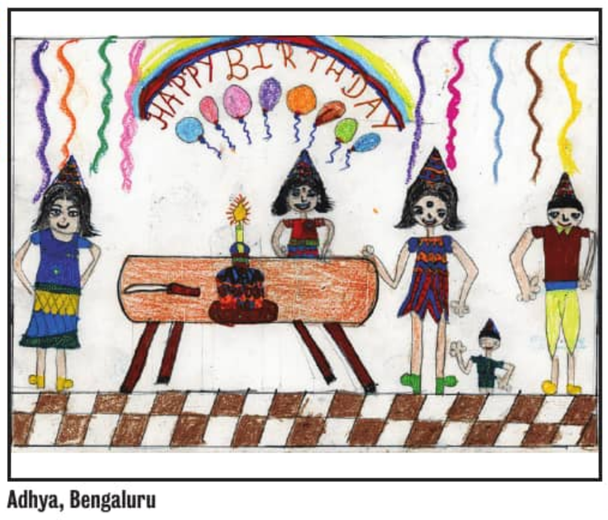
Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, your communication skills may help you on a professional front. You are likely to be more polite with everyone around you, which may help you speed up your projects. Lovebirds are likely to exchange their views with each other, which may lay the foundation of their relationship.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, you are blessed by the moon. A new partnership may give you benefits. Your energy level is likely to be high. Your hard work and enthusiasm may pay off in terms of financial gains. Self-respect may protect you from negative people around you.

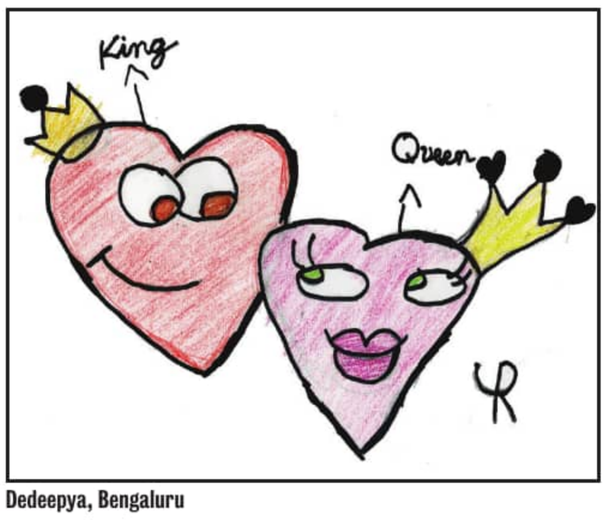
Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today, you may feel dullness and unhappiness. You are advised to avoid harsh conversations with friends and family members. You may also not be able to get proper reciprocation for your hard work. You need to follow your intuition. It is advised to keep your patience while making important decisions.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, new sources of income are likely to be opened. Your past investments may give you a good profit, which will boost your bank balance. You are likely to connect with a social organisation, which will increase your network. Singles may find a soul mate in terms of marriage.

KIDZONE



Adhya, Bengaluru



Dedeepya, Bengaluru

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
16 + 4 - 1 - 9 = 20 - 10 = 10

RIDDLER I got off at the first floor. I'm a security guard and knew how many people got on and off the elevator by watching the surveillance footage.

QUOTE UNCODE The ego is nothing other than the focus of conscious attention.

FAST FIVE

R	E	A	L	S
E	X	C	E	L
S	T	A	R	E
A	R	R	O	W
W	A	I	T	S

BULL'S EYE
hurl, hurt, lush, hurtle, hustle, HUSTLER, rush, shut, usher sleuth, thus,

STRIKE OUT

Y	A	M	M	E	R	■	D	E	A	C	O	N	■	■
A	■	E	■	O	A	K	E	N	■	A	■	O	■	■
W	I	R	I	N	G	■	F	O	X	■	C	U	B	■
N	■	L	■	S	A	G	E	S	■	H	■	L	■	■
E	L	I	A	■	S	I	R	■	H	E	R	E	■	■
■	■	C	■	E	■	B	■	R	A	D	A	R	■	■
D	U	N	C	O	A	L	M	A	N	■	B	■	■	■
O	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
K	I	E	R	S	■	E	■	I	D	E	A	L	■	■
D	■	R	■	L	O	S	E	R	■	G	■	A	■	■
O	D	E	A	■	S	T	D	■	S	A	T	E	■	■
I	B	I	D	E	M	■	B	A	L	L	A	D	■	■
A	■	E	■	S	M	E	A	R	■	E	■	E	■	■
K	A	R	A	T	E	■	R	A	I	S	I	N	■	■

QUICK

R	U	■	E	D	■	D	I	S	T	A	N	C	E	■
D	■	N	■	■	A	■	■	G	■	■	E	■	V	■
N	A	I	L	D	O	W	N	■	E	V	I	L	■	■
A	■	H	■	L	■	O	■	■	■	O	■	■	O	■
R	A	S	E	S	■	C	S	L	E	W	I	S	■	■
■	■	R	■	E	■	■	■	O	■	■	■	■	B	■
A	P	O	L	L	O	■	B	R	A	H	M	A	■	■
C	■	■	■	X	■	■	■	R	■	S	■	■	■	■
O	U	T	C	A	S	T	■	E	X	I	L	E	■	■
I	■	R	■	B	■	T	■	■	■	K	■	C	■	■
P	E	A	R	■	M	A	C	A	R	O	N	I	■	■
A	■	F	■	O	■	E	■	O	■	■	O	W	■	■
T	R	O	U	N	C	E	S	■	A	B	E	T	■	■

MENSA PUZZLE
9. Using the top two grids as a source, numbers in the lower left grid equal the sums of numbers in corresponding positions of the top two grids, subtracting 1 each time, and numbers in the lower right grid equal the differences between numbers in corresponding positions of the top two grids, adding 1 each time.

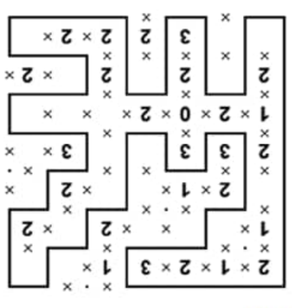
SUDOKU

1	3	6	7	8	2	5	4	9
4	7	2	1	9	5	6	8	3
8	5	9	6	3	4	7	2	1
9	8	1	5	2	3	4	7	6
3	2	4	9	7	6	8	1	5
5	6	7	4	1	8	3	9	2
2	4	3	8	6	9	1	5	7
7	9	8	3	5	1	2	6	4
6	1	5	2	4	7	9	3	8

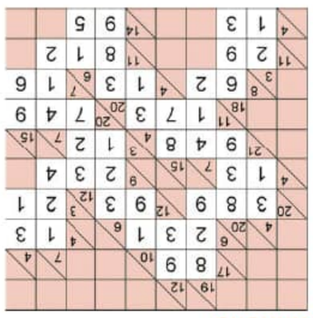
ALPHA TRIANGLE
D, AD, Dam, Made, Named, Demand, Amended.

GO FIGURE
Easy
5 - 2 + 5 + 7 = 15
Medium
4 + 7 - 6 - 3 = 2
Hard
9 - 6 x 7 - 6 = 15

LOOP



KAKURO



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 # Kobe biopic
A movie on late basketball legend Kobe Bryant is now in development at Warner Bros. Pictures, Variety reported

Nice comeback

Mouni Roy is winning applause for her befitting reply to a rude comment on one of her posts. The troll had targeted her appearance, suggesting she should find a "better surgeon." Unfazed, the actress decided to respond directly, delivering a firm and fitting reply.

Mouni's post featuring multiple pictures on her Instagram account saw some leaving behind some rude comments. A comment referred to the alleged cosmetic procedures Mouni went through, a claim she has always denied. To this, Mouni replied, "Do something worthwhile with your life. Be on socials to give away love and speak about your work. Not worth it otherwise. If you know, you know." **–ETimes**

Singing to his own tune

After acting and direction, Kunal Kemmu has now turned to music. The Golmaal actor, after making his debut as a director in 2024 with "Madgaon Express", recently shared a fun video of himself along with his team composing music but without any instruments. Kunal is seen singing in the video while his team is seen curating music through vocals and beatboxing. He captioned the video as, "All vocals, no instruments! Loche (acapella) out now on my YouTube channel".

A few weeks ago, Kunal had taken to his Instagram account in announcing his journey in the world of music. He also mentioned that he had been writing, composing and working towards it for a few years. **–IANS**

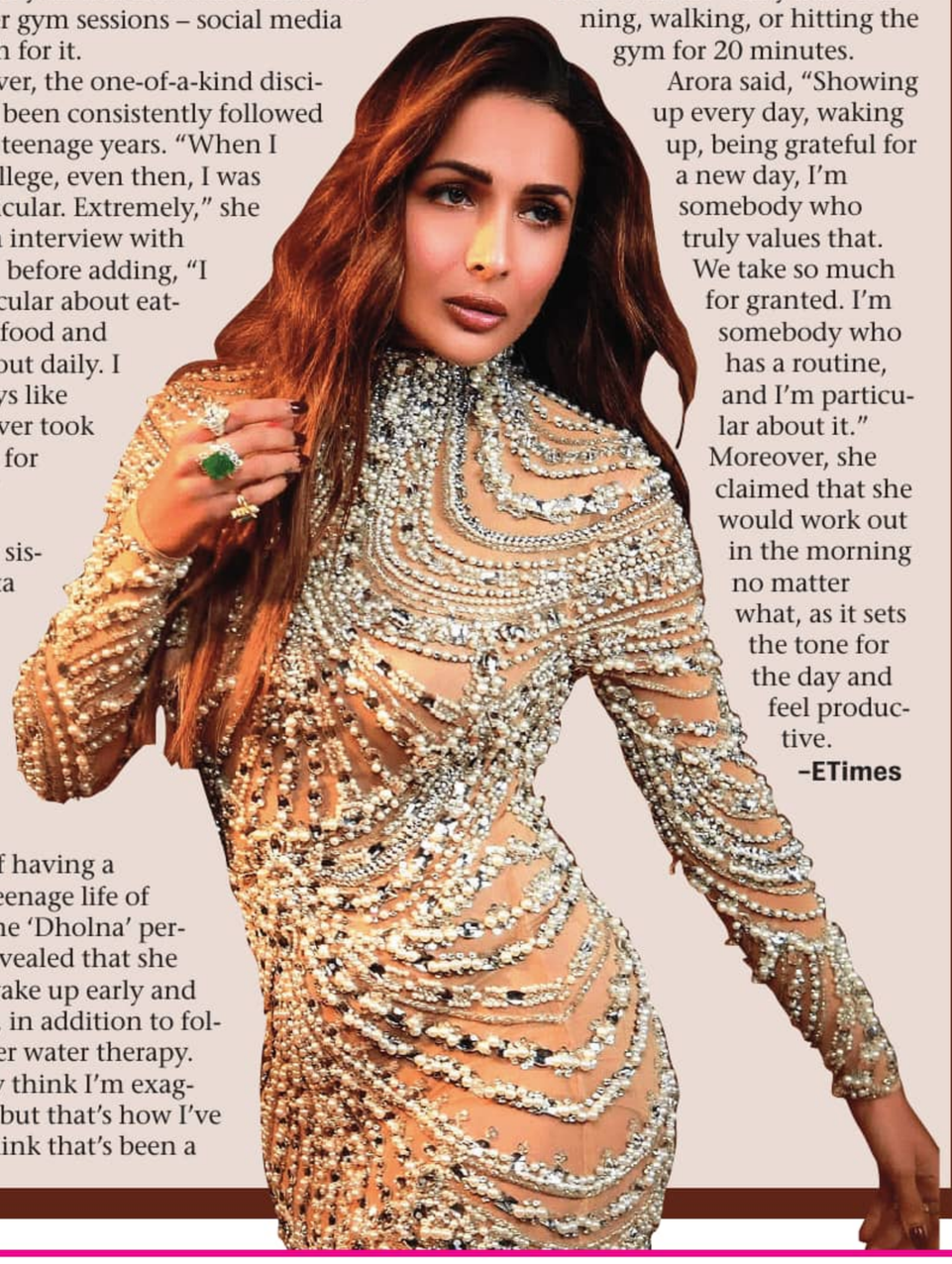
MATTER OF DISCIPLINE

For Malaika, strict routine and workouts have been a part of life forever

Malaika Arora, dazzling model and actress, has been championing fitness and health since the dawn of the day. Whether it's a boring Monday or a thrilling festive day, the 51-year-old actress never fails to attend her gym sessions – social media can vouch for it.

However, the one-of-a-kind discipline has been consistently followed since her teenage years. "When I was in college, even then, I was very particular. Extremely," she said in an interview with Pinkvilla, before adding, "I was particular about eating good food and working out daily. I was always like that. I never took anything for granted."

While Malaika's sister, Amrita Arora, questioned her decision to choose routine instead of having a normal teenage life of parties, the 'Dholna' performer revealed that she used to wake up early and work out, in addition to following her water therapy. "You may think I'm exaggerating, but that's how I've been. I think that's been a part of my life and my journey throughout," she said, adding that one needs to follow a lifestyle for longevity instead of frivolously following time. But, she said she appreciates someone showing up for their workout – may it be running, walking, or hitting the gym for 20 minutes.



Arora said, "Showing up every day, waking up, being grateful for a new day, I'm somebody who truly values that. We take so much for granted. I'm somebody who has a routine, and I'm particular about it." Moreover, she claimed that she would work out in the morning no matter what, as it sets the tone for the day and feel productive. **–ETimes**

A blend of romance and emotion

LOVE MATTERU (KANNADA)
3.0 RATING ★★★★★
- **DIRECTOR** Viraata Bilwa
- **ACTORS** Viraata Bilwa, Sonal Monteiro, Achyuth Kumar, Suman Ranganath, Anitha Bhat, Sushmitha Gopinath, Lokesh Achar, and Abhinavraj
- **Duration** 133 minutes
- **Certification** UA

Viraata Bilwa deserves a pat on the back for handling the megaphone as well as playing the lead in the movie that explores human emotions and relationships not only among youth but also middle-aged people. Though this is Viraata Bilwa's debut as director, he ensured all elements including romance, emotion, sentiment, betrayal and action to cater to the needs of all types of audiences.

Lyrics penned by Chethan Aniketh, Ashok Maddur, and Mrugashira Srikanth are meaningful and music scored by Shadrach Solomon is peppy.

The movie begins with King Ramanna (Lokesh Achar) performing a pooja at a liquor shop in the morning. It is said the liquor shop is a favourite destination for Dilip aka Dil (Viraata Bilwa) and Atmaram (Achyuth Kumar). At this juncture, the director introduces a marriage scene where Dilip, accompanied by his cousin Shivu, happens to meet Shalini (Sushmitha Gopinath) and instantly falls in love with her. He continues to meet her and takes her on a motorbike ride.

Later, he comes to know that Shalini is in love with Shivu. He meets his drinking buddy Atmaram (Achyuth Kumar) to seek his advice. He comes to know that Atmaram is also a victim of betrayal. Later, he happens to meet Dr Varsha (Sonal Monteiro) and the latter falls in love with him. Circumstances compel Dr Varsha to marry Ram (Abhinavraj). You have to watch the movie to know what happens to Dilip and Shalini and what is the connection between Atmaram and Shyamala, a nurse.

As far as performances are concerned, Viraata Bilwa is convincing as a lover boy as well as the victim of betrayal. The on-screen chemistry between Viraata Bilwa and Sushmitha Gopinath is good. Achyuth Kumar and Suman Ranganath are at their best. Their acting, dialogue delivery, and gestures in a love proposal scene are super. Sonal Monteiro has acted well while Anitha Bhat is convincing as a villain.

It is worth a watch for all, especially college-going youth.

–Y Maheswara Reddy

Too much action and violence

HACCHE (KANNADA)
2.0 RATING ★★★★★
- **DIRECTOR** Yashodhara A
- **ACTORS** Abhimanyu NS, Adya Priya, Anu Prema, and Devatha Manu.
- **Duration** 133 minutes
- **Certification** A

Yashodhara, who directed and produced this movie, has tried to pack it with all the elements such as superstition, action, love and violence. Though Hacche would not be family audiences' best option to spend their leisure time with, it can prove entertaining to mass audiences for more than two hours.

The movie begins with a narration on how Sri Krishnadevaraya ruled the Vijayanagar empire and how the king kept a treasure in a forest.

Later, the scene is shifted to an unknown location where a black magician is seen performing a pooja. At this juncture, the director introduces Surya (Abhimanyu), an orphan, who works at an automobile garage along with his friends. While returning home from a bar, he sees Samskruthi (Adya Priya), a journalist working with Jaya Mitra newspaper, in trouble with drug peddlers and helps her out. And sure enough, the two fall in love. Meanwhile, Soni (Anu Prema), the sister of Ugrasena, a ruthless gangster, wants to marry Surya but he declines her offer. She kills herself. You have to watch the movie to know what happens to Surya and Ugrasena.

Though Abhimanyu made a good attempt, he has to hone his acting skills to establish himself as a hero in Sandalwood. Adya Priya has to improve a lot. As a journalist, she is seen jumping like a child at a market place. She has no scope in this movie filled with too many action scenes.

If the director gave importance to the screenplay and ensured it was crisp, the movie would have been a good entertainer. Too may violent and gory scenes test audiences' patience. Some of the scenes, especially the love scenes, are far from convincing.

If you have nothing else planned, you can watch this film.

–Y Maheswara Reddy